

DUNKIRK CONFERENCE CENTER INC.
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THE DUNKIRK SPIRIT

DCC Web site: www.dunkirkcc.org

But the fruit of the Spirit is Love ...

Galatians 5:22

May 2008



THE DUNKIRK SPIRIT



VOLUME 25 ISSUE 2

MAY 2008

Message from the President ~

The Dunkirk Conference Center brings its future closer to the present with ongoing changes, some planned and some not planned. Mothers' Memorial roofing project is coming to its conclusion. Now that a protective roof is overhead and the foundation repairs have been made, more attention can be focused on the interior section of Mothers' Memorial. The buildings and grounds personnel have shored up support beams, installed the plumbing, and performed the necessary support work for the finished product. The next planned phase of updated windows and doors is already in progress.

A change that has come about, that was not planned, is the continuing saga of a broken waterline. This break is somewhere between cabin number one and the dining hall and although untimely, can be expected with our aging facilities. As soon as weather allows, the waterline repair will be attended to.

Another change that has taken place is that one of our beloved camps, Caring Love, has informed the Conference Center that they will not be coming to Dunkirk this summer. Although the contributing factors are beyond the control of Caring Love, they will be sorely missed.

In looking towards the future for Dunkirk Conference Center, let us revisit *The Serenity Prayer*, given here, in its abbreviated version by *Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971)*

God, give us grace to accept with serenity
the things that cannot be changed,
Courage to change the things
which should be changed,
and the Wisdom to distinguish
the one from the other.
Amen.

Ken Partridge, President

DUNKIRK SPIRIT NEWS ARTICLES

What type of future articles do you want to see in the Spirit? What specific Conference Center information do you want to be updated on? Please send an email to Larry.Cornwall@Verzion.net and let him know what you would like to see in future Spirit mailings.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

by Julie LaGrow

While our busy camping season is still weeks away, the camp has been abuzz for weeks already. The maintenance department (meaning Earl and Willie) has been putting in extremely long hours already. Besides the work of renovating Mothers' Memorial, they are preparing the camp for the season, making upgrades and repairs to cabins and fixing the unexpected water leaks and sewer problems. As we benefit from their hard work throughout the camp season, on behalf of all our campers and guests I want to extend a very heartfelt thanks to Earl and Willie for their tireless work to beautify and prepare our camp so we can enjoy it.

Our registrar, Darcy Goodrich, and our Food Service Director, Anne Pietrkiewicz, have been busy themselves. Darcy created a new computerized system to manage registration, and we are happy to report that registrations have been coming in steadily. In addition to planning for the upcoming camp season, Anne has been helping to create an exciting camp store for this year. Inside you will find some new items sporting our DCC logo.

In addition to the traditional WAY and Memorial Day Work Weekends, we will have three other groups helping us with work on the property. Family Camp I directors, David and Beth Long-Higgins brought a group of youth at the end of April. In June and July, we have youth groups coming from out of state, including Pennsylvania and Kentucky. While this is certainly a blessing, we still need as many volunteers as possible for Memorial Day Work Weekend. As always, we'll have the western-hoedown and square dance, not to mention Anne's cooking for all volunteers. If you wish to volunteer, please call me at 366-1900.

And finally, a big "thank you!" to the Samaritan Society for their gracious donation of \$2000 toward the Mother's Memorial renovations.

HAPPENINGS AT DCC

by Anne Pietrkiewicz

Spring is upon us and our calendar is filling up fast! DCC is hosting a variety of *Events and Special Functions* this year. We have booked a number of weddings and wedding receptions, even a *theme wedding*, a traditional Hawaiian wedding with Kahlua Pork, Aloha Sweet Potatoes, grass skirts, tiki torches and plenty of pineapple to go around. In addition to the weddings, DCC is also hosting the Senior Prom for the Fredonia Central School, several graduation parties, church picnics and family reunions. We are even booking parties and weddings for 2009! It seems that it won't be long before all of our efforts, both physically and financially will be paying off as, now that the "word" is out, DCC seems to be a local favorite.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

2008 THEME

In the beginning God hovered over the void bringing order to the chaos and creating out of nothing. During those first days, God made the heavens and earth, the sky and sun and stars, the day and the night, the green of the plants and the blue of the water, and all creatures to walk and fly and swim. God called it all good!

Campers will enjoy the goodness of God's creation and explore the meaning of a loving relationship with God and all creation. They will hear about their role as stewards and what it means to handle creation with care.

HELP WANTED!

The Dunkirk Conference Center is always on the lookout for people who are interested in becoming a member of the Board of Trustees or serving on any of our several working committees. We encourage everyone who reads this to prayerfully consider volunteering to help the ministry of Dunkirk in whatever way they hear our Lord's call. Please contact any member of the Nominating Committee for more information.

Kathy Aldrow:	716-667-3713	Wanda Chase:	716-692-4011
Ruth Degener:	716-668-4843	Hugh Guillaume:	716-839-5570
Alice McDermott:	716-874-4233	Jane Turner:	716-834-9330

SPIRIT PUBLICATIONS


Next Spirit Publication Deadline: October 15, 2008

To have your article published in the Spirit, contact our Spirit Editor:

Larry Cornwall 8687 North Greenbriar Terrace, Boston, NY 14025
Home Phone: (716) 941-3746. Email: Larry.Cornwall@Verizon.net

REMINDER: If you are moving and would like to continue to receive the Spirit, do not forget to send us your new address.

ANNUAL SPRING WORK WEEKEND
Friday May 23- Monday May 26
Please bring chainsaws & rototillers
SATURDAY EVENING SQUARE-DANCE & WESTERN HOE-DOWN
FREE FOOD & LODGING
SATURDAY: BBQ PORK & CHICKEN; SUNDAY ITALIAN BUFFET



AND SAVE THIS DATE – Annual Dunkirk Dinner, Saturday, September 20, 2008 at the Dunkirk Conference Center. \$30 per person. Will include bus transportation at 5pm from St. Stephens Bethlehem 750 Wehrle Drive, Buffalo & St. Matthews 5289 McKinley Pkwy, Hamburg. Entertainment provided. Starts @ 6pm, Dinner @ 6:45pm. For more info call Kathy Aldrow at (716) 667-3713.



CONFERENCE CENTER UPDATE

Mother's Memorial Project

The work of renovating Mothers' Memorial is coming along well. The roof and electrical work were finished in April, which allowed the interior finishing work to be started. We were very fortunate to have the drywall and its installation donated by Kevin Biddle. This saved the Conference Center thousands of dollars, not to mention weeks of work. Although we had hoped to retain the original windows, it was necessary to replace them. Fortunately, the savings from the drywall helped to offset some of the cost. The project is on track and the main hall and restrooms will be ready to use by the Memorial Day Work Weekend Square Dance! The center room will be completed shortly thereafter.

DCC 2008 CAMP SCHEDULE

<u>CAMPS / EVENTS</u>	<u>CAMP DIRECTORS</u>
05/17 - 05/18 WAY Work Weekend	
05/24 - 05/26 Memorial Day Work Weekend	
06/06 - 06/08 Women's Weekend	Revs. Jan Mahle & Gail Vara
06/20 - 06/22 Post High	Ted Zientek
06/29 - 07/05 Senior High	Jeff Ribbeck, Ron Bieler & Rev. Alice McDermott
06/29 - 07/02 Pilgrim Mini Camp	Donna Donner & Jennifer Mazur
07/06 - 07/12 Explorers	Alexis Knavel and Robb Utley
07/06 - 07/12 Junior High	Betty Lamb & Bonnie Haase
07/13 - 07/19 Family Camp I	Revs. David & Beth Long-Higgins
07/27 - 08/02 Family Camp II	Rev. Gary Burdick & Family
08/03 - 08/09 Family Camp III	Rev. David Martin
08/10 - 08/16 Pioneers	Kathy Aures & Paula Zientek
08/22 - 08/24 Adult Music Camp	Dr. Mildred Fischle
08/24 Music Festival	

WINE & CHEESE WEEKEND



FALL HAPPENING

Wine and Cheese Weekend will be held September 26-28, 2008. Guests (adults only) will arrive Friday evening, get settled in their cabins and have a get-acquainted social. Saturday morning after breakfast, educational classes will be held in wines, cheeses, and winemaking. After a light lunch, guests will board buses and tour the local wineries. A surf-and-turf dinner will be followed by dessert and entertainment in Mother's Memorial. The weekend adventure will conclude Sunday morning after brunch. Call 716-366-1900 for information or to make reservations.



DCC FINANCIAL UPDATE

by Bob Aures

Things are looking good financially for DCC in 2008. Julie LaGrow, our Executive Director, has booked several new events that are sure to bring in new revenues. At the time of this article I am still missing a lot of information for the first quarter and most of the camp revenues will not be realized until well into the second or third quarter, thus it is hard to project where we will end up.

Since the last Spirit we have received over \$4,000 in donations for Mothers' Memorial, bringing our total to close to \$65,000 in total monies for the project. While this is a good amount of money we still have not reached our goal for the project and in the next few months we will incur most of the expenses for the project. Also, since our last Spirit mailing, we have received over \$1,700 in restricted donations and over \$17,000 in unrestricted donations. Please remember to write any restrictions on donations, on your donation envelopes.

Dunkirk can always use donations year round to help with special projects or to help with recurring expenses.

DUNKIRK CAMP DIRECTORS

by Alexis Knavel

SENIOR HIGH CAMP

Jeff Ribbeck is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who has been working with youth of all ages since he graduated from College. He is currently a Western Area Youth (WAY) Board member and has been since WAY began 28 years ago. Jeff was a former Senior High Camp counselor for a few years and then Director of Senior High Camp for the past 16 years. He is presently a Dunkirk Conference Center, Inc. Board of Trustee and currently holds the office of Co-Vice President.

Jeff is very pleased with the qualities of expertise and professionalism that the Camp Counselors for both WAY and Senior High Camp have to offer the campers. If it were not for the counselors/advisors, both Senior High Camp and WAY would not be as enjoyable for him as it is for each camper in attendance.

Jeff looks forward to continuing with both WAY and Senior High Camp for years to come. He is especially looking forward to this endeavor while working with Julie, our new Executive Director, and her new and creative ideas for Dunkirk's future. He hopes you can join in the fun and come out to camp!

DUNKIRK CONFERENCE CENTER - WISH LIST

- Free standing copy machine
- Gas Golf Cart



If you, or any one you know, would like to donate either of these items (new or used) please contact Julie at (716) 366-1900.



by Julie LaGrow

LOGGING UPDATE

Over the winter logging was done on the property on both sides of Route 5. Working with a forester, a reputable Amish logger was selected for the contract. The trees that were taken were carefully and strategically chosen by the forester to only cut trees that had fully matured or were likely to fall victim to disease or blight. The logger was very careful not to disturb the area near the boardwalk any more than needed; however, we are left with a lot of treetops and branches. Anyone with a chainsaw is hereby invited to help us clear this up! Across the street is a somewhat larger cleanup project. Our neighbor has offered to help us in return for some firewood (which we have in surplus now!). It's exciting to see the beginnings of what will be great usable trails in the future. The Center made about \$10,800 from the logging and the proceeds were used on the Mother's Memorial project.

DUNKIRK ENDOWMENT FUND

by Rev. Gary Burdick

An Endowment Fund for the Dunkirk Conference Center Inc. was established on October 25, 1989. The guidelines for the endowment were recently revised and voted on at the Board of Trustees meeting on March 19, 2008.

Highlights of the guidelines include the fact that all principal amounts shall be retained and only the interest earned is to be distributed. Six people shall serve on the endowment committee and it shall be their duty to manage the fund and recommend the annual or special distribution on interest income as deemed feasible and/or necessary. Priority will be given to disbursement for the following: 1. Add to Endowment Principal, 2. Capital Improvements, 3. Physical Maintenance and Repairs, 4. Program Development, 5. Operating Budget.

Anyone can give to the endowment fund through bequests in Wills, Charitable Remainder and other Trusts, Gift Annuities, Life insurance, Transfer of Stocks or Bonds, and cash gifts. If you have any questions about the Endowment Fund, please feel free to call me at (716) 381-8079

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE LOOKS TO DUNKIRK'S NEXT CENTURY

Dunkirk was founded in 1922 as the Evangelical Leadership Training School. The 100th anniversary is still 14 years away, yet a small group is hard at work preserving the memories of our past while planning for Dunkirk's ministry to continue well into a second century.

Has Dunkirk touched your life in a significant way? Are you called to preserve for future generations the ministry we know as Dunkirk?

Offer your memories, insights, dreams, and talents to the Dunkirk Centennial Fund committee. Ask how you might be involved.

Marsha Hornburg Guillaume (716) 839 5570 or e-mail: mguill1224@aol.com

DUNKIRK AUXILIARY

by Jane Turner

A 'Thank You' to the Women's Fellowship of St. Matthews U.C.C., Hamburg for hosting the Spring Meeting on April 9th. A delicious lunch was served at noon, followed by the business meeting. Prior to the meeting our Financial Secretary Bernice George, received contributions from 6 churches. This represented 83 individual and 85 family memberships, and \$24 in donations. Other donations were received during the meeting. We thank the key person from each church for acting as Dunkirk Booster. Without the help of many loyal representatives and friends, the Auxiliary would not be able to contribute an annual gift to the Conference Center which is used to make necessary improvements at DCC. If you have not already become a member, please contact the Key Person at your church for information. Memberships are \$2 per individual and \$5 per family. As the fiscal year is from January 1 to December 31, contributions may be sent anytime during the year to Bernice George, 8945 Tonawanda Creek Road, Clarence Center, NY, 14032. (716-741-3710). Make checks payable to the Dunkirk Auxiliary. Dues and Contributions can also be brought to the Annual Meeting which will be held at the Conference Center on Wednesday, August 6, at 12:00 noon. Officers to be elected are Vice President, Recording Secretary and Financial Secretary. The Key Person in your church will be receiving information which can be published in your newsletter or your church bulletin. Information on becoming a Key Person for your church can be obtained from Jane Turner 716-834-9330 or Ruth Degener 716-668-4843. If your church is willing to host a Spring Meeting in 2009, please contact Jane Turner 716-834-9330. Your support is appreciated very much!

BROOKS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL



by Julie LaGrow

Brooks Hospital has been an enormous supporter of DCC in the last year. Through word of mouth from co-workers at the hospital, DCC has received numerous referrals from them for weddings, family picnics and even a couple of class reunions. In December, we held their Christmas Party and it was so successful that they have already booked their Christmas Party for next year. In February, Brooks Hospital returned for group training through the hospital. Ten training sessions were held and they were once again very happy with the food and the service they received here at DCC. I think it is safe to say that we made an impact on an influential source within the community.



DUNKIRK CONFERENCE CENTER WILL BE HOSTING A

CLASSIC CAR SHOW & FESTIVAL

ON OCTOBER 11TH

BRING THE FAMILY FOR GREAT FUN & GREAT FOOD

MEMORIES SUBMISSIONS

What are **your** memories of Dunkirk. Please call or write and allow us to share your memories in a future issue of The Dunkirk Spirit.

Marsha Hornburg Guillaume 160 Parkledge Drive Amherst, New York 14226
e-mail: mguill1224@aol.com phone: (716) 839-5570 cell (716) 870-6079

Look for the Memories section at <http://www.dunkirkcc.org>.

MEMORIES SPOTLIGHT

by Our Readers

In the last issue we put out a request for Memories that would help us preserve Dunkirk's heritage. We received an almost instant reply from the Rev. Dr. James Fishbaugh who found the following letter among several photos of E.L.T.S. classes in the late 20's that were carefully preserved by his late mother. Her letter follows:

My Impressions of E.L.T.S. April 29, 1929

Many young people of Salem (church in Rochester) are wondering what E.L.T.S. stands for, what it means and where it is. E.L.T.S. stands for Evangelical Leadership Training School. It is a Young Peoples camp held every summer at Dunkirk, N.Y. on the beautiful shores of Lake Erie.

Being a Freshman at Camp last year I had many experiences and was greatly impressed with many things that were done both by the teachers and the students. The thing that impressed me most was the way in which the twilight services were conducted at the end of the day when we all gathered on the bluff of Lake Erie just as the sun was setting over the lake and held prayer with God.

Another thing that impressed me was the friendly spirit that encircled the camp. Although Rochester had about eighteen students at camp, we all made new acquaintances with young people from all over the country.

Salem Church has many young leaders who were trained at E.L.T.S. and we who were at camp last year are very much interested to have more of our Salem friends attend with us this year.

(signed) *Lucille Allen*

ed. note: Is it any wonder that Lucille's son, James Fishbaugh, received his call to the Christian Ministry at Dunkirk some years later?

DUNKIRK SPIRIT DISTRIBUTION

If you would like to receive the Spirit by email, to save on printing & distribution costs (and to receive the newsletter quicker!), please send your email address to Larry.Cornwall@Verizon.net. Put '**EMAIL DUNKIRK SPIRIT**' in the Subject Line, and your name in the body of the email. Some may prefer to receive it both ways, if so, please state that as well.

GIFTS RECEIVED IN HONOR OF...

Dr. Mildred Fischle by David & Martha Hornung

Our family by Robert & Norma Monckton



UNDESIGNATED GIFTS RECEIVED

Clifford Aures	Maurine & Susan Kick	Jack & Nancy Staffen
Richard & Jean Braun	Lois & Sherwood Kramer	Marjorie Weathers
Rev. George & Jennifer Cushing	Leona McConnell	Mrs. Herman Wittkowsky, Jr.
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Mr. & Mrs. William Houston	Jeanne Morris	St. Stephen's UCC, East Amherst
Lois V. Hyde	Jack & Viola Noel	Women's Fellowship St. Peter's UCC
Paula W. Jack	Donna Pignatora	North Tonawanda
Sandra H. Jordan	James C. Schwender	

DESIGNATED GIFTS RECEIVED

Russell Rich for Cabin 5	Faith UCC Boston for Cabin 19
John & Miriam Swanson for Cabin 10	Zion UCC for Cabin 22
Christa Knaak for Cabin 11	Faith UCC Williamsville for Cabin 23
Sharon J. Mooney for Cabin 11	Joan Rupert for Cabin 24
Faith UCC, Sugarcreek, Ohio for Cabin 15	Ceil Sivula for Scholarship Family Camp I
Dori Anderson for Cabin 17	Anonymous for Scholarship Family Camp I
St. Paul's UCC, Wendleville --- Mother's	Norman & Phyllis Kwaizer --- Operations and
Zion UCC --- Cabin 22	Improvements
Salem UCC, Tonawanda --- Cabin 7	Dorcas Society of Salem UCC, Tonawanda in honor
Gloria Randolph --- Mother's Memorial	of Mothers of Salem UCC --- Mother's Memorial
Church of Nativity --- Mother's Memorial	Richard & Jean Edgcomb --- Mother's Memorial
The Biddle Family --- Improvements	John & Sally Sherman --- Mother's Memorial
Faye A. Cooper --- Mother's Memorial	Salem UCC, Tonawanda --- Mother's Memorial

NOTE: If you are designating a donation, it must be specified on the donation envelop, or in a written letter. This is due to IRS and government regulations, as they require this type of documentation.

The donor names listed represent donations received September 8, 2007 through March 31, 2008. In the event we have inadvertently omitted a name, please contact DonnaLee Melberg, and the list will be updated with the next printing of the Dunkirk Spirit.



MEMORIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

Eileen Keipper by Glen & Joanne Bateman
 Eileen Keipper by Ed & Marsha Berlin
 Eileen Keipper by Frank Coppola
 Eileen Keipper by Jane Cudney
 Eileen Keipper by Marge & Bud Davies
 Eileen Keipper by Wesley E. & Marilyn C. Drexler
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 Jacob H. Rich Jr. by Mr. & Mrs. Gary Rich

Jacob H. Rich & Clara Woods by Jill
 Jay Rich by Mr. & Mrs. Henry Poppendeck
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 My Parents, Rev. & Mrs. Carl E. Berges
 by Judith A. Berges
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 Marilyn W. Burdick by Gary Burdick
 Jack Cornwall by Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Cornwall
 Helen & Carl Zimmerman by Prudence Dana
 Valann Pickard by Joan Dean
 "Papa" Fred by Mr. & Mrs. Gary F. Degener
 Fred Degener by Ruth Degener
 Our Son, Ken Dezman, Jr. by Ken & Peg Dezman
 Rodney W. Dick by Miriam Dick
 Katherine Dolan by Susan Johnson & Bernie Dolan
 Roy Duewiger by Jane Duewiger
 Ren Fogelsonger by Judy Dumitru
 Norma Jean Dean by Mrs. Marie Edmister
 Norma Dean by J.M. Frank
 Bill Ast by David & Kathleen Frey
 Jean Klaiber by Carol & Roy Grace
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 & Terrence Greene
 Mr. & Mrs. Floyd C. Wildt by Charles F. Wildt

MEMORIAL GIFTS RECEIVED - Continued

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 Elizabeth Dietrich by Rob & Betty Carlson & Family
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 Elizabeth Liptak Dietrich by George Dietrich
 Elizabeth Dietrich by Louise Dietrich
 Betty Dietrich by Fred & Clare Ertel
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 the Ortiz Family
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 Elizabeth Dietrich by Rev. James Hake &
 Rev. Trevor Watt
 Elizabeth Dietrich by Bill, Debby, Andy &
 Christine Whitten
 Elizabeth Dietrich by Directors, Committee Members
 & Staff; Erie County Employees Credit Union
 Harm & Muriel Asma by Arline A. Bollmann
 Rev. & Mrs. James Doellefeld by Erlene Dudley
 My mother, Lena Eggen Sage by Ruth Eggen
 Creamer for Mother's Memorial
 Walter Steiner by Paul Federmann
 My sisters, Gerry Runkard and Caroline Maltbie
 by Marie H. Denz
 Vivian Hamm by Mr. & Mrs. William Hamm
 for Mother's Memorial
 Leah Hensel by Charles Hensel
 Loved ones by Mrs. D. Leaderstorf
 for Mother's Memorial
 Richard & Barbara Meyers by Michael Meyers
 My husband, Charlie M. Moore by Ruth D. Moore
 Geraldine Burkard by Al & Kathy Pirro
 Clemens C. Ratzel by Eileen Z. Ratzel
 for Mother's Memorial
 Donald R. Miller by Mrs. Dawn Smart
 for Mother's Memorial
 Elizabeth Dietrich by Doug & Carol Wagner
 Bill Zimmerman by Wendy E. Zimmerman

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