

Old Kia Kima News



Last Newsletter

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 1
MAY 2005

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

This may be the last Old Kia Kima Preservation Association Newsletter that you receive. The Board of Directors and the Newsletter committee have been evaluating the best and most cost efficient method of keeping in contact with our members and interested parties. For the last several months we have been sending out a monthly e-mail newsletter (The Smoke Signal) to all of our members who have given us an e-mail address. This totals about 120 persons. In the past we have been mailing out about 450 paper newsletters three or four times a year. These cost almost two dollars each.

If you have an e-mail address, please go to our web site (www.oldkiakima.org) and send an e-mail to the webmaster so that you will be kept on the e-mail list. If you would like to receive a paper copy of The Smoke Signals please send your mailing information to :

Steve Demster
6859 Deerhill
Clarkston, MI 48346

Your name and e-mail address will be suppressed on this newsletter so that it will not be available for spammers to see. If your e-mail browser filters e-mail you may need to allow it to come through. If you have any questions about this you can contact Neal Talley at neal.talley@oldkiakima.org or call 901-494-2738.

Later in this newsletter you will find an article about our e-mail system and e-mail etiquette.

In order to read and print The Smoke Signals you will need Adobe Acrobat Reader. This is a free program for Windows or the Mac. You can find a link to the site on our web site or at www.adobe.com.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

If you have not been receiving e-mail newsletters from OKKPA and you have an e-mail address it is **VERY** important that you go to the web site and e-mail us your address. We don't want to lose track of any of our brothers.

www.oldkaikima.org

My Early Days of Camping

By Steve Horne

At Old Kia Kima 1952—1962

Continued from the last issue

My buddy was not happy. It was too rough for him with the rain and work and he began to get home sick. We did get a couple of straw mattresses. I thought things were getting better and I wanted to wander off and explore, but he didn't want to do anything. He got miserable and wanted to go home, so he somehow called his mother to come and get him the next Saturday. I guess he told Mr. Queen who contacted his mother. By this time I was also home sick real bad, as he was influencing me to go home. I wanted to, but I knew my dad would be disappointed. I agreed to anyway. That first Saturday morning we picked up all our gear and were ready to leave when his mother got there that afternoon. I wanted to go home so bad, knowing I had another week to stay. This was my chance and I was leaving with him. Just before his mother and aunt arrived, I knew that I couldn't give up so, saying nothing to him I ran off into the woods. I knew that if I saw them that they would persuade me to go, as they thought, as my buddy had told them, that we were being starved, snake bit, and run around naked, which wasn't too far from the truth. But, I liked it and wasn't going to quit. I liked the food. I loved bologna, and still do) and the "bug-juice". I was learning to cook on a wood fire. We picked blackberries and made cobbler. I started making coffee and smoking grape vine. I flew as fast as I could go down to Whispering Rapids, crossed the river and hid. When his mother and aunt came, I could not be found. They eventually left. Just before sundown, I came back across the river. I was getting hungry and they were already looking for me. Mr. Queen didn't say anything about it, and I wouldn't talk and never did. I ate a hamburger and some beans. I remember that well and it was delicious. I went to my tent and it was all mine. I went to sleep and Sunday morning I was on the cooking detail. I

really liked that. That afternoon we went on an arrowhead hunt at Hirschburger's field. I found one that I still have. We took a free swim and a bath in the river. I cooked dinner. Time to leave on the next Friday and hike back to main camp for the Friday night campfire. I didn't want to go back to Memphis, but I had to. My buddy never came back to camp, but I did for many more years. Later I became the waterfront director at Slick Rock. That year we had a great year and had many more campers. I challenged the main camp waterfront for a showdown at the water carnival, a big event every Friday afternoon at main camp. The Slick Rock boys, or my boys, put them to shame. We beat them in every event. Even today they don't like to talk about it. (So, what do you have to say Main Camp waterfront boys? - You got beat - What's your excuse now?).

Well, that day I nearly gave up and ran off was a mile-stone in my life. From that day, I never quit at anything. In fact I never knew when to quit. Today I am retired, and all I once did is in the past. Only memories remain, but I have a wealth of them. The greatest days and years of my life were at Old Kia Kima. I have many brothers and never will I forget them. Every boy must have a challenge to overcome. They learn to do things they never thought they could do. This is how we become men.

Always in brotherhood, and the spirit of Old Kia Kima

Steve Horne

Results from the April, 2005 Board of Directors Meeting



The OKKPA Board of Directors met at Old Kia Kima on April 21st and 22nd. This was a very productive meeting. Much was accomplished and resolved in two days of meetings.

One important decision was to authorize the building of a Camp Chapel on the east side of Spirit Creek in honor of Martha Jane and Ralph Young. The original plans were to build a chapel that would seat about two dozen guest. However, enough money was raised to expand the original plans to enlarge the seating to sixty-four (the capacity of the camp). The contract was signed with Bobby Williams to complete the construction by June 1st. This should be completed for use by campers this camping season.

The camp alarm system was discussed and it was decided to make a board policy that the alarm will be armed anytime the camp is left unattended. The control panel is to be relocated to the Dining Pavilion storage room so that anyone using the camp will have access to it without having access to the Camp Office. This should make the office more secure all the time.

The Board authorized the installation of a telephone to be available in the Camp Office and Dining Pavilion, if the cost is below fifty dollars. This can be used in an emergency and will allow much more versatility with the alarm system. If an

internet connection can be arranged, then some of the adult leaders whose jobs require internet access will be able to keep in touch with their businesses.

In keeping with our camp utilization plan money was authorized to expand the programs to included canoeing, spelunking and hiking for the 2005 camping season.

The newsletter and e-news mailing were discussed and it was decided that our newsletter was costing between twenty-seven and thirty-six hundred dollar each year. It was felt that this money might be better spent on other goals and that the e-news might be a more productive use of our talents and funds. This newsletter will be the last regularly scheduled mailing. If you have an e-mail address be sure to go to our web page (www.oldkiakima.org) and e-mail it to the webmaster. (see other article in this newsletter).

The old camp hospital area was discussed and a study was suggested to determine the best temporary or permanent use for this area. There are some funds available to do some work on the building, but if a permanent structure is to be erected then plans will have to be made and funds raised to complete the project.

Also, an ADA compliant unisex restroom facility needs to be constructed near the Dining Pavilion for use by our guest. This concept was approved by the board, and hopefully this can be done in the very near future.

Revelation of a Vision

By **Martha Young Gunter**

On September 1, 1996, Ralph Young was talking to Martha Jane Young, his lovely wife and my mother. Dad and Mom talked frequently because she was hospitalized at St. Joseph Hospital in Hot Springs, Arkansas after being diagnosed with terminal cancer. The two of them

often small talked to pass the time away.

The conversation on this particular day was on the restoration of Old Kamp Kia



Kima. I believe my mother knew her time was limited and she wanted Dad to know her wishes for the camp. The subject of restoration of Old Kamp Kia Kima came up and Mom expressed her concern and desire to see a chapel resurrected on the camp property. She had hoped the church would not be forgotten.

Old Kamp Kia Kima has always been special to both of my parents. Many of you referred to my mother as Mom Young and my dad as Padre' Young. Ironically, Padre' by Webster's New World Diction-

ary means father. Mom and Dad thought of each and every one of you as part of our family.

Mom was always a great inspiration and support to my dad in anything Dad was involved in especially the camp.

The church has always been a huge part of the Young Family life. Daddy assured my mother not to worry there would be a chapel built in the woods of the camp property.

Unfortunately, this was the last day this conversation was spoken about to my mother because she died that evening.

Dad, keeping this promise to my mom, set out later to make this dream come true. He had visions of many different structures of a chapel from one being made of glass to the open building that is being constructed today. Mom and Dad's wishes have always been to make this a place of worship for all denominations and faith.

Dad wanted to build and financed this project himself, but over the years his own failing health kept him from being able to take care of this responsibility. We worked together gathering the information to present his plans and financial cost to the board. The board voted unanimously in favor of the project but we were told that the funds would have to be raised first before construction could begin.

We knew we would have to begin the task of asking for donations to fund this project and it would not be easy. The group had already given generously financially to fund other needed projects and now we were asking again for dollars to be given for yet another project. We did not want to ask the group to again dig deep into their pockets and donate but we had no choice.

Many times I had come to the chapel site and sat down and visualized the beautiful structure full of campers and adults coming together to worship their Lord and God. One of these times, I found myself thinking of the movie, "Field of Dreams". "If you build, he will come."

With this voice speaking in my ear, I knew I could not ignore this wish and I had to help my dad pursue the dream. We knew without the convictions of this group and the financial generosity this would have stayed a dream not a reality.

Construction for the Martha Jane Young/Ralph Young Chapel began the Monday after the April 2005 work detail weekend. With weather permitting, this chapel should be completed by June 1, 2005.

I would like to take this time on behalf of the Young Family to express our gratitude for all who have contributed to this happy occasion. First, I would like to thank the Board for voting and accepting the plans and site location for this building. Second, I would like to say thank you to Bobby Williams for accepting the plea to build this facility and third to Buddy Keltner for being the liaison to the board and over seeing this project. Last, I would like to thank all of you who generously looked at your bank accounts and poured the dollars into the Martha Jane Young/Ralph Young Chapel Fund. We knew through prayer that this dream would become a reality. The eagle has once again soared over Old Kamp Kia Kima.

I would like to close with Psalm 100:

Make a joyful noise to the Lord all you lands,
 Serve the Lord with gladness;
 Come before his presence with singing,
 Know that the Lord, He is God;
 It is he who has made us, and not we ourselves;
 We are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving
 And into his courts with praise.
 Be thankful to him and bless his name
 For the Lord is good,
 His mercy is everlasting,
 And his truth endures to all generations.

**Thank you again from all of the
 Young Family.**

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ANNUAL REUNION

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OKKPA is implementing an e-mail system that should benefit everyone, provided that it is used properly.

Every OKKPA member and interested person, who lets us know his e-mail address, will be kept up on the latest news and happenings by *The Smoke Signal* on a monthly basis. If you don't use e-mail and are interested, a paper copy will be mailed to you. We must have your e-mail address or you must let us know you want the paper copy. Your dues payment will cover the cost of this and will help defray the camp's operating expenses of thirty-five thousand dollars per year.

Each person who's e-mail is on file with OKKPA will be assigned an e-mail address whose format will be :

firstname●lastname@oldkiakima.org.

E-mail sent to this address will be forwarded to your regular e-mail account automatically. All e-news letters will be sent as blind carbon copies, which means that all recipients will be suppressed. This is for your protection from spam and identity theft. If you do not want your e-mail forwarded please let us know.

An advantage of having this address is that your friend will always remember your address since it is your name @ oldkiakima.org. They won't need to remember your actual address. It also means that if you change your real account a simple e-mail to **webmaster@oldkiakima.org** with

your new address and the OKK address will still reach you and no one else needs to be notified. If you are looking for an old friend and don't know if he is a member you can simply send him an e-mail. If it is returned then we don't have his address of file.

New e-mail System

If you would like to check to see if you are on file, simply send yourself a test e-mail to the OKK address and see if you get it. If it is not on file your ISP should send you a undeliverable reply.

Your ISP may be filtering your e-mail and it is possible that the e-news might be recognized as spam due to the fact it is a mass mailing. If this is the case, you need to contact them and be sure to have them allow it to come through. You might also check your own e-mail client to be sure you are not also filtering it.

If you send an e-mail to board members or committees, do not send them as blind copies since it is important to see who gets them and so that everyone is aware of the recipient list. All e-mails to The Board of Directors to committees should only be sent to the President or Committee Chairman. This way they can then resend them to the appropriate people. You should never forward an e-mail sent to you, if the sender wants them to receive it they should send it. If you reply to an e-mail, NEVER reply to all. This might send your reply to someone to whom the original was addressed that you might not want to see the reply. It is always better to send a new e-mail rather than simply replying. This copies all of the original plus any other replies and make for tedious reading.