

MERAMEC VALLEY CAMP RESORT

November 2009 Newsletter

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Activities Report

Chili Cook Off – We had a sign up sheet for those who wanted to enter the chili cook off. We had 4 people sign up. Out of those 4 people, 2 were out of the park and were not able to participate. We decided since there were only 2 participants and only about 8 people judging (obviously not many interested), to take the \$20 prize money and split it between the 2 remaining contestants. Katie Landing and Joan Hassemear were the winners and they both donated the money back to the Activities Fund. There were some complaints from people who wanted to enter the contest but discovered it was cancelled. However, they didn't sign up. We have a sign up sheet out for just about every activity and it's posted for a reason. If you plan on participating or attending, PLEASE SIGN UP. If no one signs up, the activity is cancelled. This probably won't be on the 2010 calendar.

The Halloween Carnival/Haunted Trail was a success. The kids enjoyed the games and the Bounce House. Hot dogs/brats/funnel cakes were sold and the park did well. It seemed to work out well having the kids ride the wagon to the EA Section, then on to the Fire Council/Stage area to continue trick or treating. The Haunted Trail was a huge hit. Kids and adults all enjoyed it. Thanks to everyone who helped as we didn't have a lot of time to prepare for this activity. This will be a returning activity if someone coordinates it. If not, there is a chance this would not appear on the 2010 calendar.

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Activity Concerns:

At the beginning of the year, Kim Zweifel and I (Activities Committee) were determined to make this a fun year. There were a few new activities for 2009 but many of the old activities remained on the calendar. For the most part, I think we were successful, but with each activity we handled, we learned what we needed to do to improve things for next year.

I'm very concerned about the activities calendar for 2010. Kim and I won't be doing it all again next year. There are many activities, Western Weekend, Thanksgiving, the annual Auction, Halloween, Christmas in July that need someone to coordinate and if not, they won't be scheduled for next year. Everyone tells us, "we'll help" or "call us if you need help". The help we need is for YOU, the members in the park to take on an activity, which means everything from planning to clean up. I don't want to scare anyone by saying that, but I want you to know what's could be involved depending on the activity selected. Kim and I will help guide you and handle the money if there's a charge for the activity but we won't set up or clean up after your activity. It's all up to YOU.

What do we have to do to get people to attend some of these activities? I don't know. We've started all the activities at various times of the day – from 11AM to as late as 7PM, some with entertainment, some not, some quick activities, some taking all evening. It's always the same people that attend and for the most part it's always the same people that criticize and complain. We need suggestions from YOU, we need participation from YOU and we need help from YOU. With the exception of a handful of activities for 2010 that Kim and I will handle, it's going to be a very quiet year at Meramec Valley unless YOU step up to the plate. We try to promote all the amenities in the park, activities included. If many of these don't happen in 2010, in the long run, that could hurt YOU as a member of the park.

I'll say it again, if anyone is interested, please call either Deter Matlock 314-277-8707 (cell) or me (cell) 314-604-2270. We're having a meeting in the Lodge following the November Board Meeting.

Thanks for a fun 2009
Michele Matlock

The Ten New Members for July are as follows:

Steven & Debra Sinde
Jason & Gina Davinroy
Kyle & Cassie Robertson
Patricia Hedrick
Tim & Sandy Moffett
James & Cathy Happel
Todd & Shari White
Donna Theis
Patrick & Joan Hasamear
David & Diana Scheve

November Meeting November 21 2009
All members welcome

Saturday OCTOBER 4TH – 8:00AM
FALL CLEAN-UP WEEKEND

Thank you to all clean up volunteers who met in the lodge for coffee and donuts and spent the day working to make MV a better place to camp.

All volunteer meet at the Pavilion for thank you supper and fun time.