



Camp Boyhaven Alumni Association

3430 Boyhaven Road, Middle Grove NY 12850
518.885.7800
www.campboyhaven.org



December, 2008

Hello Fellow Alum,

This year has been a great one for Boyhaven! We accomplished many great things and made significant progress towards a better camp and program.

At this time last year we did not know the future of Boyhaven as the financial situation cast a dark shadow over us. Our overall numbers were down, our expenses were up, and income was falling severely short of what was needed. We came to you with a message that we were in desperate need of your help. You responded with great enthusiasm.

I am proud to announce we have turned a corner in our time of need; however we still have much to do. With that, I write to you with cautious optimism.

One of the great moments of 2008 was the formation of the Alumni Association. This organization has raised just under \$6,000 to date for Boyhaven. From here on out we will begin to see great things from the money donated by the members of this Association.

There was a conscious decision made not to undertake any projects too soon. It was decided that we needed to have a secure amount of money in the Association so that its future would be secured and that it would be around to support the facilities of Boyhaven for years to come.

In talking with members of the Association, it has been clear that we should focus the money and resources of the group on facility needs with regards to our program areas. The first of these projects will be our Nature Lodge. In the spring of 2009 we will begin a full renovation of the Nature Lodge which will include:

- New lighting
- Interior and Exterior Painting
- New Electrical wiring
- New Tables and Benches
- New ramp and stairs entering the building both front and rear
- Anything else we find we need to and can do!

This is our goal for 2009 and we are very confident we will achieve it, as we have achieved all our goals for 2008. We will keep that trend going. However, we need your help:

- Continue your support of Boyhaven and the Alumni Association by renewing your membership

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- Encourage Year Round camping at Boyhaven to your unit and other units in your Community/District
- Encourage your Pack or Packs that are associated with you Troop, to attend Resident Camp each and every summer. They should be sending a group to our Cub Camp Weekends and a group to our Webelos Camping Week
- Have your Pack adopt a mini golf hole
- Have your Unit adopt a campsite
- Hike our Historical Trail
- Provide a Service Project on your own or come to our bi-annual Gopher Work Days

All these goals are vital to the continuation of Boyhaven and our programs. We have made great improvements, but more work is needed in order to keep our beloved camp.

Just to help clarify some items that may still be lingering:

- Boyhaven is not for sale or being considered for sale.
- Boyhaven Summer Program will continue. There was serious discussion regarding the discontinuation of the summer program if 2008 did not achieve goals of attendance and finance. We achieved both.
- We are fighting a 12 year downward trend in attendance as well as a decrease in total Cub Scout membership in the council. We still need all the support we can get. Our success in 2008, while great, is still a long way off from continued growth.

If at any time you should have any questions, comments, concerns, or if you have heard something that you wish to have clarified, I encourage you to contact me. Unfortunately our organization is not immune to rumors, and even though well intended, they could end up hurting more than helping.

Thank you again for your continued support and dedication to the youth of Twin Rivers Council and Camp Boyhaven.

Yours in the Spirit of Boyhaven,

Drew Chesney
Camp Director