

FROM THE BOATHOUSE

E-newsletter

"Wilderness is a dark and dismal place where all manner of wild beasts dash about uncooked."

- Early 1600's American settler

Our Purpose

To provide transformational experiences in a wilderness setting emphasizing quality, personal growth and relationships.

Our Values



YMCA Camp Menogyn promotes caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.



Camp Address

55 Menogyn Trail
Grand Marais, MN 55604
Phone: 218.388.4497

Winter Address

3425 Ihduhapi Road
Loretto, MN 55357
Phone: 763.479.1146
Fax: 612.823.2482

www.CampMenogyn.org

Email us at: info@campmenogyn.org

Weather at Bearskin Lake:

Highs 0F. Low -11, Southwest Wind 5 mph. Cold! 1-2" snow after midnight.

ONLINE Registration Available NOW

It's true, though Menogyn only got electricity in the late '70's and internet this decade, we are not like Luddites in our philosophy. "Rustic yes, but first class." We now use Camp Brain camp management software and have just installed and worked out the online registration feature. We wanted to get this right so now it is time for YOU our beloved parents and campers to **try it out and give us feedback**. Our goal is to make it simple for you to use and effective for us to get the information we need to do the best job with your campers.

So now you can register online, by fax and by mail. Go to this link to do so.

http://www.campmenogyn.org/pages/page_19_67.htm

If you ever have any questions whatsoever about registering your camper **call the 612-822-2267** number and you will get a friendly, helpful person who cares about your time and child. They can easily transfer your call to Mo or Paul too if you have any special concerns or just want to talk wilderness.

Winter Staff Shout

We would like to send a big hearty greeting to our winter staff challenging the cold, windy, frozen north, where only the toughest of souls thrive in the remote, pop culture-free environment. Special thanks to Steve Anderson, our Site Manager, Sam Eisenberg and Chelsea Koenigs, our mushers (all not pictured);



Joe Frost, Tyler Henkles and Tova Sularz for running the packed winter schedule up there. Other staff like Paul Anderson, Kelsey Johnson, Susan Amis and Meghan McClanahan (McClammyhands) have been up there cooking, cleaning and keeping people warm, so if you are headed up there look out for some good times, a few laughs and a whole lot of winter knowledge.

Menogyn 2009 Y Partners Annual Fundraising Campaign Update

Menogyn Y Partners— Help kids grow strong through a Menogyn Wilderness Experience

If you have already pledged to contribute to Menogyn's Y Partner's Campaign this year, THANK YOU! If not, it is easier now than ever. That's right, you can now donate to your favorite little wilderness camp ONLINE. Just when you thought it was safe to escape the phone calls every November, now you cannot hide from us even on the WEB! Actually though, it is a response to requests from you, our beloved supporters. We are currently over 75% of our goal of \$147,000 with over \$112,000 raised already.

Please help us get campers to camp, train our staff and purchase equipment for another summer of safe, fun and enriching wilderness travel with the Menogyn Magic. And of course, now you can do it in your pajamas at four in the morning if you wish.



Pulling up the Petawa Creek, Ontario. Good luck Men!

http://www.campmenogyn.org/pages/page_24.htm

*...you can now
donate to your
favorite little
wilderness camp
ONLINE!*

MENOGYN Fundraising Idea

Tough times call for tough work. In a reflection of the grand old CCC days, Menogyn has an idea for you to put America's youth to work! This is simply a good idea. Gary Miner (Hommes du Nord '69) and his wife Pam have been supporting our long trip groups for years through offering them landscaping work in the spring. We were thinking that maybe this idea would be simple to expand in other neighborhoods.

Basically how it works is like this: Alumni, friends and interested parties who need spring clean up yard work done get together. They then agree how much they are willing to pay for that work and select a weekend that they would like a group of Menogyn Long Trip campers to do the work. Neighbors could have a few projects going on in the same block and the campers could spread out or finish one project at a time. Homeowners provide the tools & supplies like shovels, yard bags etc and put out a high calorie lunch. Menogyn organizes the Campers to come ready to put their backs into it, and the homeowners pay the group leader the predetermined amount. The money goes to pay off each camper's trip fees. Anyone interested in getting a block landscape fundraiser together please call Mo in the office 763-230-9310 to reserve your group of high quality, courteous, kind, always on time Menogyn Long Trip Work campers.

The ability for these campers to help work off their fees creates a dramatic growth in them. They understand the feeling of postponed gratification, striving for a goal and creating their own destiny. It makes them really appreciate their adventure too, creating life-long memories of accomplishment. Working to make their summer adventure happen is also a long held Menogyn tradition.

COOL New Outdoor School

Do you know someone who is looking for a high school with a progressive approach to education? **River's Edge Academy (REA)** is the first Expeditionary Learning Outward Bound School in the Twin Cities and provides a fantastic opportunity to learn through experience! Students will participate in field work, service learning and overnight expeditions.

River's Edge Academy, in partnership with parents and community, prepares urban high school students for their further education and career, by challenging them with rigorous academics, innovative projects and an inter-disciplinary, environment-focused curriculum. REA is a green school where environmental stewardship is taught and practiced! The high school is located in St. Paul and only accepting 120 applications for 9th, 10th and 11th grade.

For more information please check out the website at www.riversedgeacademy.org or contact the Director, Meghan at 651-894-3357.

Winter Family Camp



This February 13-16 President's Day Family Camp is FULL with families coming up for a fun-filled, outdoor winter blast of dogsledding, skiing and snowshoeing in the wilderness. After this season's cold and snow, we are very sure of many inches of ice on Bearskin, but the new Ice Fishing Auger has a sharp tip! We have the skis and snowshoes and of course, dogs, dogs, dogs.

So now Menogyn has THREE family camp holiday weekend options, Memorial Day, Labour Day and President's Day. Many families have been coming for years and their kids have come to be Menogyn campers and Long Trippers and even Staff. So get your kids outside, breathe some fresh air yourself, and enjoy the Menogyn experience with the little ones. After all, they are our future!



People of all ages having fun in the sun....and snow.

Menogyn Summer Adventure Information Nights and Calendar

Thursday, February 5,	Ridgedale YMCA	Minnetonka
Thursday, February 19,	Southdale YMCA	Edina
Thursday, March 5,	Elk River YMCA	Elk River
Wednesday, March 11,	Long Trip Slide Show	Midwest Mountaineering Store, Minneapolis
Thursday March 19,	Prior Lake River Valley YMCA	Prior Lake

All programs are 7-8:30pm and will have slides and information for all folks interested in having a rowdy good time on a Menogyn trip this summer. The Long Trip Slide show will also be a celebration of last year's intrepid long trippers as they journeyed together on the trip of a lifetime! **No RSVP's needed, just show up and bring a friend.**

Menogyn History Lives

With the construction of the new welcome pavilion on the Massie's side of the lake, we have an unprecedented opportunity to share our history with all visitors. In this uniquely designed shelter we will have several panels, much like display panels at National Parks, where we will be able to put our history and mission right out there for all to see.

If you have interesting pieces of Menogyn history, pictures, mementos, stories whatever, let us know. Our Property and Facilities Committee of our Board is putting together the displays and we would like to have it all in place for this summer.



The 1969 Hommes Trip, ahhh those were the days of jeans and wooden canoes and no fear of the sun.

MENOGYN Wish List

A couple of things which would really help us on our journey...

- 24' RV Trailer for the Bloomington Y's Men's Tree Lot. (Boy you should see the old one!)
- 2007 or newer 8 or 9 passenger Chevy Suburban.
- A full Economic Recovery and World Peace (We won't get it if we don't ask!)



We HEART you!

The Wilderness Puzzler

Last month's puzzler was, "Who was the former Menogyn camp director that was heavily involved in the beginnings of true protection and preservation of the boundary Waters Canoe Area?" The answer is Armond Paulsen in the 1960's. Arm really provided leadership for the wilderness movement, in the face of widely heated disagreement from others, to designate the Boundary Waters as a very special place worthy of protection for future generations. We are honored to have some small association with this endeavor. Maybe they will make a movie out of it with Keifer Southerland in the lead role?

This month's Wilderness Puzzler is, "What is the largest National Park by area in the world? **The answer can only be found in the next....**

FROM THE BOATHOUSE!

-Paul, Mo, and Steve.