



Illinois Campers On Mission

November 2024

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President's Letter—

Hello COM family,

It was great to see everybody and talk to everyone at Lake Sallateeska this month. We also had a great business meeting and got to hear about the many things we have done for the Lord this year. Thanks to all of the members that came and participated and we missed those who were not able to come.

I presented the plaque to Pattie Noeth for her and Jim's Lifetime Achievement award. It is great to honor more of our faithful members.

We had great time at the hot dog roast and good time doing trivia. We also had the blessing of doing some small repairs for the camp.

I hope to see everyone at the Christmas dinner on Dec. 7, 2024 at Farina, IL. All of the information you need is on the back page of this newsletter. Please RSVP to Catherine by Nov. 30 so we have an accurate count for the caterer.

Fred



Colossians 3:23-24

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not men, knowing that from the Lord, you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ

COM Officers

President—Fred Riley, 618-508-3917, paulakriley45@hotmail.com

Vice-President (Project Manager) - Richard Evans, 618-218-4546,
akrlevans1@gmail.com

Secretary—Karen Mowers, 309-945-3971, kcc61254@gmail.com

Treasurer—Dick Mowers, 309-945-1477, 728 Cardinal Ct., Geneseo, IL 61254

Chaplain—Jim & Marilyn Diercks, 618-965-9748 or 618-317-2353

Food Supervisor— Francie Lindeman, 618-713-2402

Historian - Irma Burnett, 309-253-8557

National Coordinators—Rick & Cindy Truesdail, campersonmission72@gmail.com

National website: campersonmission.org

2024 & 2005 Tentative Schedule

Dec.7 Christmas Luncheon, FBC, Farina - **see announcement on page 10**

Feb. 21 & 22, 2025 Winter Fling, Lake Sallateeska

April 21—25, 2025 Lake Sallateeska work project & Spring rally *

With Easter on April. 20, we will not come in until Monday

June 3-5, 2025 National Rally, Aiken, South Carolina

Additional Dates at The Great Passion Play (See Don Kragness for info)

Nov. 4— 17, 2024 closing up the set, putting things away, doing repairs

Jan. 18—31, 2025 traveling to Piney Woods Camp, Texas to work

Mar. 30—Ap. 19, 2025 (Easter is April 20, 2025) The Great Passion Play



Chaplain's Chatter— As I write my final column as the IL COM chaplain, I want to thank everyone for their help in making this job so easy—sending prayer requests, volunteering to give devotions at work projects, caring and praying for each other, sharing the gospel with others, working hard at tasks God gives us to do, being faithful to always help each other when there is a need, and so much more. I have been blessed and encouraged by each and every one of you. It has been a privilege to serve with you and I look forward to continuing our friendships in COM “As We Go.”
Marilyn

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up . Galatians 6:9



| | |
|----|---------------------|
| 1 | Dick & Karen Mowers |
| 5 | Kevin Watson |
| 11 | Susan Wieldt |
| 20 | Margaret McDowell |
| 23 | Richard Evans |
| 26 | Sondra McKenzie |
| 27 | Debbie Shelton |
| 29 | Terri Keller |





Strong Tower Church, Flora, IL

Helping this church with maintenance and projects is an on-going act of love for Illinois COM. This group plus several others at different times, come and spend time as it is needed. Here is a recent work day.

Present: Jim & Marilyn Diercks, James & Logan, James Rentfrow, Weston, Wyatt and Wyade Hunley, Fred & Paula Riley, George & Penny Meese, Gary Watson.





Fall Rally photos.
The hot dog roast on
Tuesday night. They
look so good!!!

The traditional camp-
fire fellowship time in
the evenings when
there is time to talk
and relax together.

Weather is perfect.
Thank You God!!!



I also got some great video
of the women gathering to
sew, stuff bears, and spend
time in fellowship together,

I know the guys and some
of the other women were
busy working on projects
for the camp. Thanks for
your help even on your
“rest break”.



Presentation to Pattie Noeth for the COM Lifetime
Achievement Award on behalf of Pattie and her
husband, Jim, who passed in January. Congratula-
tions to you and thank you for your hard work with
COM and serving as full time volunteers at Lake
Sallateeska for several years. God bless you, Pattie.

**Campers on Mission
YTD Treasurers Report
September 30, 2024**

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Balance Checking 3-31-2024 | \$ 2,099.59 |
| Balance Savings 3-31-2024 | \$ 2,010.83 |

| Income: | YTD | Budget |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| Auction | \$ 3,036.00 | \$3,000.00 |
| Background Checks (income to have background checks done) | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| Clothing | \$ 432.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| Donations | \$ 2,000.00 | \$1,500.00 |
| Misc. | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| Total Income: | \$ 5,468.00 | \$4,500.00 |

| Expenses: | YTD | Budget |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| Background check expenses (processing fees with Christian Background Checks) | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| Clothing (purchase of magnets, clings, clothes) | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| COM National Expenses donation | \$ 100.00 | \$ 100.00 |
| COM National Website expenses | \$ 100.00 | \$ 100.00 |
| Entertainment | \$ 0.00 | \$ 250.00 |
| Evangelism supplies & materials (printing of evangelism cards, bear supplies) | \$ 212.31 | \$ 500.00 |
| Food (Spring Fling, Projects, Christmas Lunch, Fall Rally) | \$ 1,943.71 | \$3,000.00 |
| Memorials (8 memorial gifts of \$25 each) | \$ 200.00* | \$ 0.00 |
| Misc. (award plaques at National Rally) | \$ 280.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| Postage | \$ 0.00 | \$ 65.00 |
| Region 4 support | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| Work Project Expenses | \$ 474.77 | \$ 500.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 3,310.79 | \$4,515.00 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Balance Checking 9-1-2024 | \$ 3,336.95 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Balance Savings Account 9-1-2024 | \$ 2,013.34 |
|---|--------------------|

***Memorials**

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Wayne Riley | Jim Noeth |
| Marianne Collins | Donna Bredt |
| Cheryle Walters | Augie Dothager |
| Ann Jennings | Alberta Woodside |

IL COM FALL GENERAL MEMEBERSHIP MEETING

Lake Salleteeska Baptist Camp

October 23, 2024

Attendees: Terry & Debbie Odum, Fred & Paula Riley, Richard & Anita Evans, Leroy & Irma Burnett, George & Penny Meese, Jessica Bonnell, Cindy Minard, Gary & Karen Watson, Cathryn St. Dennis, Jim & Marilyn Diercks, Andy & Marilyn Thomson, Jan Kragness, Bryan & Terri Keller, Harold & Susan Mills and Pattie Noeth

The meeting was called to order and a welcome made by President Fred Riley at 1:13 pm.

Opening prayer was led by Marilyn Thomson.

The Spring Rally minutes were read and a motion to accept made by Leroy Burnett and seconded by Jan Kragness. Motion carried.

Everyone was given time to look over the Treasurer's Report with a motion to accept made by Terry Odum and second by Richard Evans. Motion passed.

The Food Report was presented and a motion was made by Jim Diercks and second by Susan Mills to accept the report. Motion approved.

Richard Evans summarized the Project Report of the various projects completed by IL COM in 2024. The floor was opened for discussion with these comments made:

There was no record given of the projects completed by IL COM in March 2024 at Eureka Springs Passion Play. Those in attendance were: Kragnesses, Diercks, St. Dennis, Rileys, Mills, and Mowers. Jan will put together a report to give of those attending and the work completed in November 2024. once it is completed. Jan also said there was no mention made of IL COM members at the Texas camp last January.

Correction was made: Pattie Noeth and Ken & Marti Ramsey's church is located in Collinsville IL not Granite City (Lake Sallateeska April project). On Carmi Children's Home report Jessica Bonnell had 4 children present.

Marilyn Thomson, chaplain, gave the Chaplain's Report and then stated that she is resigning her position as Chaplain. She thanked everyone for their support during her tenure as chaplain.

The Evangelism & Sewing Ministry Report was given by Anita Evans. In 2024, we completed:

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Bears 400 | Backpacks 10 | Small drawstring bags 20 |
|-----------|--------------|--------------------------|

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Large drawstring bags 60 | Sling bags 70 |
|--------------------------|---------------|

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Grocery bags 16 | Fleece blankets 3 | Pillow cases 35 |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Children's towels 8 | Salvation dolls 40 | Gospel girls 60 |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Christmas ornaments: | Balls 1, Small ornaments 6, Large ornaments 43 |
|----------------------|--|

The Region 4 Representative Report was given by Jan Kragness. She and Don are continuing to train Gayle & Tim Jones as new Region 4 Reps. Also Tennessee COM was deleted from Region 4 and added to the southern region and Region 4 picked up Missouri.

The Nominating Committee made the motion to approve the following officers for the 2025 – 2026 COM year:

President: Fred Riley

Vice President: Richard Evans

Chaplains: Jim & Marilyn Diercks

Historian: Irma Burnett

Secretary: Karen Mowers

Treasurer: Dick Mowers

Evangelism/Sewing Coordinators: Anita Evans & Sondra McKenzie

Food Coordinator: Francie Lindeman with Debbie Odum, assistant

Motion was made by Leroy Burnett and second by Terry Odum to accept these nominations. Motion approved.

Next, President Fred Riley presented Pattie Noeth a Lifetime Achievement plaque in honor of all the work that Pattie & Jim Noeth contributed to IL COM.

Old Business:

A master list of everyone's mailing address, email address and phone numbers was passed around and everyone was asked to check their listing and make any corrections. This list will be mailed to Karen Mowers for her to make corrections or additions.

50th Anniversary Celebration Discussion: A question was asked about whether any camping spots were looked into for the celebration. It was decided that anyone wanting to take their trailer and camp will be responsible for making their own arrangements.

Fred asked everyone who knew they would be attending the Celebration to please remove the Response Card from their membership meeting packet and complete it. He collected them and will make sure that Karen gets them.

Everyone was reminded to send in their pictures and IL COM stories, blessings and interesting happenings to Karen to be included in the Celebration booklet.

Corrections to Celebration pages: On the Lifetime Achievement Awards page, Bob & Barb Greaves name was misspelled and it was noted that Wintford & Martha Haynes were never part of IL COM.

IL COM Clothing: It was reported that Dick is asking for ideas of a new place to purchase our IL COM clothing. Several places were mentioned with various members stating they will check into them and make a report as to viability. It was also stated that if anyone else wanted to take on the responsibility of handling the clothing orders that it would be agreeable to Dick. Jan mentioned the place that IL Disaster Relief uses (Cajun Creative—www.IWantYellow.com). It is individual orders there—no mass orders.

New Business:

2025 Project dates: Fred stated that we are almost completely booked for the 2025 project year. He still has places he needs to confirm dates with but we are definitely going to Streator Baptist Camp in May, Carmi Children's Home in August and SICC in September. He hopes to have all dates confirmed by the Christmas party in December.

The budget for IL COM for 2025 was presented. It was reported that the Executive Committee was recommending an amendment to the new budget. The motion was made to drop the line item of \$1000 for the District 4 Reps with the stipulation that we would donate money to them if/when it was needed. A discussion followed and then a motion was made by Richard to accept the amendment to the budget and second by Jan Kragness. Motion carried.

Jan reported the following dates:

Eureka Springs Passion Play—last dates of the Passion Play for 2024 season are November 8 & 9. They will need volunteers to come help close down the sets November 10-16.

Piney Woods TX camp: January 18-31, 2025

Passion Play 2025 Season: Will need volunteers to help get ready for the new season March 30-April 18, 2025. The first performance will be Easter weekend.

Don Kragness asked (via Jan) that the dates for the Fall Men's Bible Study 2025 at Streator Baptist Camp be shared: November 20-22, 2025.

It was also shared about the Fall Women's Bible Study at Streator. No dates given.

IL COM has been asked to do sessions at the National COM Rally in SC in 2025. They would like us to do sessions concerning making the As You Go Bears. A discussion followed as to what we would need, volunteers needed and how to actually do the sessions. More discussion will follow throughout the next few months.

Fred asked if anyone had any questions about any of the topics discussed at today's general meeting. No questions were voiced. He announced that we would be going to Grecian Steakhouse for supper instead of having the planned potluck. Anyone wanting to go should meet at the gates to camp at 4:30. Our reservations are for 5:00. After supper we would go back to camp for a worship service.

A motion to adjourn was made by George Meese and second by Jan Kragness. Then Marilyn Thomson announced she would like to do a devotion and prayer before leaving. After she gave her devotion, Gary Watson closed the meeting in prayer. That was taken as the motion to adjourn being passed. Meeting was adjourned at 2:09 pm.

Submitted by:

Debbie Odum

(substituting for Karen Mowers, Secretary)



Christmas Luncheon Is coming

Date: Saturday, December 7, 2024

Location: Farina FBC, 400 Adams Street

Time: Lunch is at 1 pm but doors open at 11 so come early

Cost: \$14 per person (including tip)

RSVP: Catherine Rentfrow, 618-267-7399 by Nov. 30.

We plan to take updated COM member photos for the directory. If you cannot attend, please send me a new photo.

Fall--- - Time to get out and camp for fun (what's that?) and enjoyment.

Time to get hot chocolate, hot cider, hay rack rides and a nice chair by the fire and just relax.

Time to reflect on the blessings of God to you this year, spend some time with friends and plan family time.

Time to winterize the camper—as sad as that is—to prepare it as good stewards would do and thank God for providing it for our COM ministry this year.

Good night camper!!!

