

THE END OF THE WEEK AREA MEETING

There are plenty of staff folks who believe the area meeting at the end of the camp week to be a pivotal time of vision casting and celebration for kids (and leaders) on a summer camp trip. Regardless, you might be a trip leader who would value some direction on how that time can best be utilized. We hope this may be helpful.

Some elements that may be of interest to you for that time, could include:



EXPLAINING WHAT'S AHEAD IN THE WEEKS TO COME (CAMP FOLLOW-UP).

SHARE THE STORY OF JERRY KIRK AND CY BURRIS, THE 2 SILVER CLIFF WORK CREW BOYS WHO "PRAYED BIG"

VISION CASTING FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR WITH YL AND HOW TO GET THEIR FRIENDS (AND NEW FRESHMEN) IN ON IT.

HAVING A FEW KIDS TALK ABOUT HOW THIS CAMP WEEK IMPACTED THEM.

HAVING EACH KID WRITE TO AN INVESTOR (CAMP DONOR) BACK HOME ON A POSTCARD.

HANDING OUT AREA T-SHIRTS SO EVERYBODY CAN WEAR THEM ON THE LAST DAY.



Talk about (with great enthusiasm) what the upcoming school year could look like if "we all" stacked hands on making YL great at their schools. What if, together, we dreamed big and prayed big? They could be the difference makers! Give them vision for a reputation and legacy to grow into! And give them a vision for doing something REAL different...embracing freshmen and bringing them along for the ride!

It might be a great thing during your area meeting to hear from two or three kids about how this camp week impacted them in ways they didn't see coming. Give em 30-60 seconds to give a "quick word" about their week. Or it might be a great time for a second timer to share about the importance of sticking together after camp and also being a part of the camp follow up things.

Nothing fires a donor up more than hearing first hand from a kid! The area meeting is a great time to have each kid on your trip write a postcard or two. Put a template on a screen or flip chart to show the "bones" of what to write. But don't make your template force words they're not prepared to write. Give them options of sentences to write.

TAKE YOUR AREA PIC ON DAY 2 AFTER VOLLEYBALL OR RODEO AND THEN USE AN ONLINE COMPANY (CLUBFLYERS.COM or GOTPRINT.NET) OR THE SERVICE CENTER AND HAVE THEM QUICK SHIPPED BACK TO YOU AT CAMP BEFORE THE AREA MEETING. COST A LITTLE BIT, BUT WORTH IT!



Monday, July 27th
Lunch at Blue Sky (98th and Quaker) at 11:50 am.

Tuesday, July 28th
Frontier Picture Party at the Broken Post YL Building (34th and Gary) at 7:00 pm.

Wednesday, July 29th
All City Summer Bonanza YL Club at the Broken Post (34th and Gary) at 7:57 pm.

REMEMBER: The Area Meeting on Day 7 is yours to run with. These are merely some ideas to help get your wheels spinning...not meant to overwhelm you with "have-to's". The time is yours...use it well!

For more info/help write to: tsummerall@mac.com or ylhubcity@msn.com

If your area is implementing YL's Ministry Strategy (Summerall), here are a few more thoughts on the area meeting:

- EXPLAIN TO THEM THE PROCESS OF CHOOSING YL PRESIDENTS (AT THEIR SCHOOL) AND WHAT THAT JOB ENTAILS.
- CHALLENGE THEM THAT THE ONLY WAY YOU WANT TO SEE THEM BACK IS IF THEY FILL A CABIN OF THEIR FRIENDS (OFFER TO HELP THEM) OR IF THEY ARE ON WORK CREW. INTRODUCE THEM TO THE IDEA OF WILDERNESS OR A 2nd TIMER TRIP.
- ANNOUNCE THE TIME AND PLACE OF YOUR FIRST AREA MEETING BACK HOME (PICTURE PARTY, ETC). GIVE THEM THE BOOK, PAMPHLET, ETC THAT YOU WILL USE (WITH AN INVITE TO THE FIRST GATHERING) AS WELL AS THE TIMES AND PLACES FOR FOLLOW UP.

PRAYING BIG THINGS

Giving Vision to Kids to Pray for Their Friends

Before it was called Frontier Ranch, back in the '30s and '40s, Frontier was called Round-Up Lodge for Boys. It was an exclusive, ritzy, expensive boys camp that only the best of the best and the richest of the rich could go to. Down the hill from Round-Up Lodge, Young Life owned a camp called Silver Cliff. Two work crew kids, Jerry Kirk and Cy Burress, from Silver Cliff would climb up the hill every morning and have their quiet time on a rock overlooking Round-Up Lodge.

Every morning they would pray that one day that camp would belong to Young Life because as they put it, "God could use it much better than those rich kids from the East could." Soon afterwards Round-Up Lodge was listed in a magazine as up for sale. In short, Jim Rayburn saw the ad, raised the money, and bought the camp.

Over 60 years later, there is not a square inch on that property where someone did not give his or her life to Christ. I went to Frontier Ranch 23 summers in a row to work or lead a cabin of kids, and I saw people come back all the time looking for their spot, their tree, their rock where they sat for the first time and said yes to the greatest love story ever told.

At the Frontier 50-year reunion, I asked Jerry Kirk and Cy Burress (who were there and still walking with the Lord, still friends to this day) what caused them to ask God for this camp. They told me

that Jim Rayburn always taught them to pray "big things," and it never occurred to them not to ask God for the camp.

I always ask my high-school friends after telling this story in our day seven meeting at camp, "What are you praying for your friends ... safe things, easy things, anything? Or are you praying "big things" because we have a big God. Two sixteen-year-old kids prayed big things 60 years ago and many of your lives have been changed. Two sixteen-year-old kids prayed big things and thousands have come to know the Lord here.

What are you praying for your school, your club, your friends? Are you praying for the same 40 kids meeting every week in the same living room, singing the same songs, hearing the same message? Or, are you praying big things ... that God would do amazing things at your school and in your club this year ... that you would pack so many into that living room you would have to look for a new meeting space ... that lives and that school would be changed for eternity.

Let's all pray big things this year and dream big dreams, because we have a big school and better yet, a big God.

