

Greater Northwest FC Camp

March 29, 2015 Staff Meeting Minutes



*The Greater Northwest Florida College Summer Camp is a Event hosted by
The Hutchinson Bell's Greater Northwest Local Chapter.*

Slide 1



Donnie: Welcome. Congratulations on being selected to be a counselor at the Greater Northwest Florida College Summer Camp. We have a great group of counselors. When you see the list you will notice that we have a lot of young counselors and this will be really good because they have ENERGY! We want to THANK YOU for doing this job. Often times we get busy in all the preparation and execution of camp and we forget to say THANK YOU!

Donnie

Theme for the Week:

Romans 11:36, "For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen."



Bible Class Material: By Brian Orf

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Donnie: The Theme for the week comes from Romans 11:36. Note that each day of Bible class coincides with the words on the logo and the concept of giving to God: Glory, Prayer, Lives, Thanks, Everything. Brian is preparing the material this year along with Zac Echols. However, Brian is unable to be at camp.

Counselor List			
Kathy			
<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Day Staff</u>	<u>Medical Staff</u>
Jehu Besley	Cheyenne Cox	Dani Yorkston	Melissa Mellor
Tim Dickey	Candee Dickey	Dave Rogge	Michelle Rogge
Zachary Echols	Brittany Dickey		
Cory Johnson	Keri Echols	<u>Administrative</u>	
Matt Lister	Rebecca Johnson	Donnie Fermerick	
Joshua Main	Karen Johnson	Matt Dickey	
Mike Trokey	Chantelle Giles	Kathy Carpenter	
Aaron Van Fleet	Janet Lister	Mandy Fermerick	
Brandon Wagner	Tiffani McCoy	Carrie Willis	
James Yorkston	Janell Morley	Stacey Giles	
Zachary Youngblood	Abigail Mountford	Melissa Mellor	
Kyle Zwahlen	Mackenzie Nelson		
Kurtis Wiles	Blair Perez	<u>FC Friends</u>	
Cameron Bauman	Melissa Simmons	Ali Shropshire	
Austin Bray	Regan Fermerick	Lauren Tharp	
Dan Carpenter	Sarah Giles	Noelani Lee	
Daniel Kelly	Rachel Simmons	William Christian	
Melvin Nichols	Mirissa Zwahlen	Andrew Hull	

Kathy- Here is the big REVEAL. The first time we have shared the list.

Note the **new members** in the ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

- Donnie- Co-Director
- Matt- Co Director**
- Kathy- Head Counselor
- Mandy- Activities Coordinator
- Carrie- Registrar**
- Stacey- Financial Executive
- Melissa- Local Chapter Representative**

Kathy

Counselor Expectations

- First and Foremost: THANK YOU
- Service And Commitment
- Recruiting and Retention Initiatives
- It's Not Really A Vacation
- Counselor Contract
- Participate in a Fundraiser
- Local Chapter Membership (Michelle)



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Kathy- Here is some of the expectations we have for our counselors. We will provide more information going forward on the initiatives, the contract, fundraising, and helping you enroll in the Greater Northwest Local Chapter of the Hutchinson Bell. You must also complete the counselor registration on the ACTIVE network (includes mandatory background check and volunteer waiver).

Carrie

Camp Registration

- We currently have 19 campers registered.
- Last year we had 48 on June 1st .
- YOUR ACTION ITEMS!
 - Register your kids (instructions TBA)
 - Share the registration link.
 - Utilize Camp Brochure/Flyer
- Camp is \$335 for campers (last year 275)
- Camp is \$250 for counselor kids.
- Our goal this year 185 campers.
- We now a new online registration with ACTIVE!



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Carrie- **ACTION ITEM:** Getting Counselor Kids (CK's) registered ASAP.

#1- Send your CK's names and birthdates to Carrie or Matt: carrie.willis6181@gmail.com,
matthewdickey@hotmail.com

#2- Matt or Carrie will manually enter their name and birth date and set them up with the Counselor Kid Rate.

#3- Matt or Carrie will direct you to the ACTIVE registration site to complete the registration of your CK's once they have the pricing set.

We want to have 48 registered by June 1st so if we can get all the CK's registered by then, that will help us meet the goal!

The definition of a CK:

"The campers that are the children and/or dependents of counselors and staff members of the Greater Northwest Florida College Summer Camp." In other words, if they are on your tax return as a dependent, then you get this special pricing.

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Matt

Retention & Recruiting



Make contact Stay in contact Be visible Be available

Utilize **Facebook** , **TEXT**, **Email**- Promote camp! If you chose to contact each person individually it will be more personal. Follow up with your contacts as appropriate.

In your messages to potential campers include how to register for camp. Attach the camp registration link to every email and let them know how to reach you and be available to answer questions they may have. Share the link to our website as well.

•"A Florida College camp is a fun-packed, adventure-filled week spent in a spiritually encouraging atmosphere. Christian volunteers-- many of them alumni of Florida College-- run the camps and have a passion for serving young people. Come spend a week away from home playing sports and games, learning crafts and skills, making lifelong friends, and studying God's word with many other Christians and young people your age. Come for great fun; leave with great memories!"

- Recruiting Campers is the single most important pre-camp planning we can do!
- What if each counselor recruited at least one kid to come to camp? How would this effort grow our camp?

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Matt- Several years ago we adopted this model to aide us in getting campers to camp. We need you to help bring kids to camp by reaching out to people in your area and inviting the kids to camp. Camp is for ages 9-18. Utilize all the resources you have at hand. If you send someone the registration link directly in a message, there is a greater chance they will sign up...make it easy for them. Direct parents to the web site and use similar types of statements as the one listed above (3rd bullet from the bottom). Here is the registration link to use when you recruit campers.

<https://campscui.active.com/orgs/FloridaCollegeInc?season=883004&location=509202>

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Donnie

Some Points of Interest

- Dress Code: Shorts/yoga pants. Have a relationship with the campers you tell to change. Inform the camper's counselor or a member of the admin team.
- No Cell Phones: This applies to all campers and most counselors.
- Bibles for Camper: We are working on acquiring gift Bibles for the campers.
- Clapping after Devotions: This is not encouraged. We will not use summer camp as a forum to debate anything controversial.
- Schedule Adjustments : Slight adjustments to maintain safety and security of campus at all times.

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Donnie- *IS IT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD?* This was a question we asked you to keep on the forefront of your mind last year during camp. Asking this question allows you to take a moment and make sure you are taking the right actions. We ask that, in situations where you need to admonish a camper, ask yourself the question (is it in the campers best interest). One example: if they are wearing *short* shorts or yoga pants, you only send them back to change their outfit if you have a RELATIONSHIP with this camper. In years past we have experienced a situation where a counselor becomes a "policeman" and is enforcing rules on kids they've never spoken to before and it doesn't go well (tears...devastation...they had no idea they were breaking a rule). If you don't know the camper, alert the cabin counselor to the situation and let those who have a relationship with the camper deal with it. For clarification, we do follow FC's Code of Conduct. The dress code states that the shorts must go to the knee cap. Our campers come from a variety of backgrounds and a modest dress code is new to some of them. Regarding Cell Phones- they have become more and more of a problem over the years. Campers are not having interaction with others because they have a device in hand. They often state that they keep it with them because it has their Bible on it. This is very true. Nevertheless, we will communicate this rule (and others) as widespread as possible as with campers and parents prior to camp. We are excited to provide the campers with a paperback Bible, which will eliminate the need for an electronic device, but it will also provide each student with the same version and they will be on the same pages during a study. This is helpful to the teachers!

We do not use camp as a forum to debate or publically demand alignment of practices, especially where there may be liberties involved. Our campers come from a variety of backgrounds and so things like a spontaneous clap at devotion or a boy wearing a hat during a prayer happens. We do not turn these items in to camp "issues". If you

have a concern over something please talk to one of the directors and it will be handled in the best interest of everyone involved.

Lastly, we will have a closed campus. Visitors are welcome on Friday night for "The Show".

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Mandy

Activity Coordinators TBD

Activity	Coordinator and Helpers
Camper and Counselor Check In (Sunday)	Carrie and Kathy
Sports	
Afternoon Activities	
Crafts	
(Sunday Night)	
(Monday)	
(Tuesday) CAMP VIDEO	
(Wednesday) MOVIE NIGHT	
(Thursday) CAPTURE THE FLAG	
(Thursday) BANQUET	
(Friday) SHOW	



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Mandy- Many of the bigger events do not have coordinators assigned yet. Sunday night the FC Singing Friends will be on site. The evening will be something along the lines of “CONCERT IN THE PARK” complete with tickets and refreshments and more. One thought (as Mandy is always trying to raise money) is to charge our visitors (parents and siblings who are already there to drop off their kids) to attend by selling them a ticket! You may have noticed we have taken SAFARI off the schedule as the kids are getting tired of it. Safari is a great event and we want to bring it back in a few years with renewed interest. Monday will be an epic relay event that Mandy is still thinking about. **If you have any interest in coordination of an event or IDEAS, then let Mandy know fermenick@comcast.net.** We will do CAMP VIDEO again as Dani did an awesome job with it! We listened to the feedback from campers and will also have a Camp Slideshow (pictures). Evidently the campers like to see pictures of themselves! So we will have someone else assigned to that and it will be presented at the Friday Show.

Melissa

FUNDRAISING

- Committee Update- Pricing Initiative
- Oh Fill My Cup
- Carrie Cuts at Camp
- Volleyball Event
- Donations via 501c3- Payable to Florida College
- And More



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Melissa- Pricing Initiative- We are striving to maintain the financial health of the camp. The way we are doing this is by regulating the number of campers who are discounted; communication of the pricing structure; appropriate leverage and application of scholarship funds during recruiting and retention campaigns; providing protocol for scholarship offers; and highly encouraging our counselors (YOU) to participate in fundraising. We have document that spells out all of the above. ***If you are interested in knowing more now, then send Melissa an email and she will send you the 2015 Camp Pricing Initiative document.*** As you can see in the slide we have a number of ways to raise money “and more” (Spaghetti Feed in Sparks, Nevada) and a number of ways you can participate. If you are interested in joining the FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE and taking an active role, let Melissa know! Otherwise plan on buying coffee at camp or getting a haircut at camp or going to a Volleyball Fundraiser or a Spaghetti feed. Your presence at these events really make it fun and inviting for attendees...it’s also a great place to see campers and urge them to get registered for camp!!!

Melissa is also the chair of the FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE- The most critical role relating to camp is providing scholarships to campers. There is a protocol that **must** be followed and it is a little different this year with the new ACTIVE Registration system. Once you have identified a camper in need of assistance, please give the parent the email address of the Scholarship Coordinator (Melissa Mellor) and have them contact her directly (mjm318is@gmail.com). Please do not promise scholarship funds or discuss possible amounts of the scholarship offers. **Note:** The fundraising committee raises nearly \$10,000 a year and the money is targeted towards Camper Scholarships, One or Two Scholarships to FC

and this year we are also raising funds for the general camp fund. If you know of anyone who would like to be a donor we can assist you in facilitating a donation! It is tax deductible and as simple as getting a check from the donor made out to Florida College and we will provide a document/receipt so that it becomes a charitable contribution that can be a tax write off. There are a lot of folks who believe in and appreciate what we are doing and some will generously give hundreds of dollars to this cause, if we just ask!

Stacey

Camp Financial Report

We are committed to about \$47,000 to Aldersgate...last year it was about 45,000.

We anticipate total expenses to be around \$52,000

Budgets for various events to be given to appropriate coordinator via email from Stacey.

Director's comments on the financial status of the camp.



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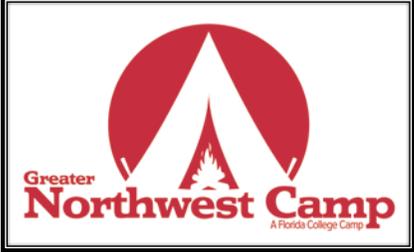
Stacey- Beyond what is on the slide, it is important to note that we do have a budget for all of our events. If you are a Coordinator please ask Stacey for your budget, she will respond rapidly. Stacey will work with you to make it as simple as possible to purchase any supplies for your event. If you prefer to be reimbursed she can send you a check (she'll need receipts at some point). If you prefer that Stacey do the purchasing...send her a link for the product or a list of supplies needed. If you want to buy the supplies yourself and need money up front...she will send you a check and you can send in the receipts. We can make just about anything work, if you stick to the budget.

Donnie- We are actually doing really well at this time and we need to stick to our plans and budgets.

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Donnie

Questions



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Stacey- Reminding of the need for counselor to let us know if you want to coordinate an event and/or if you have **ideas!!!**

Michelle- If you need more information or want to keep up with happenings: go to our camp Facebook page. It is constantly being updated. You can find the link for registering campers for camp...find it and Share it on YOUR newsfeed! Michelle will be setting us camp up with Twitter soon as well.

Kathy- We must have 100% participation amongst our (non FC employed) staff in registering as a counselor on the ACTIVE network. This allows us to capture your information to assign you to cabins and society; you to take the MANDATORY background check, and sign a volunteer waiver. The goal was to have 100% complete by yesterday. We are at 63% right now. Here is the link again! Please complete this task by Midnight April 4th.

<https://campscui.active.com/orgs/FloridaCollegeInc?season=882703&location=509202>