



Rushmore National Music Camp Newsletter

Spring 2005

Volume 5 Number 1

Notes from the Editor

The 35th Anniversary year of Rushmore National Music Camp is in the works! The 2004 camps continued camp traditions, introduced some new faces, and successfully made the change to Northern State University for Junior High week! Now the directors and staff are preparing for even better camps in 2005! Remember that your input for future newsletters is always welcome. Let us know where you are and what you are doing. We're eager to hear from former campers and parents. Please send your suggestions, comments, articles, and memories to Ellen Diischer, 1750 Manor Lane, Hastings, MN, 55033-3316, or to EDiischer@earthlink.net. Also, be sure to visit the camp website: rushmoremusiccamp.com for a look at the 2005 brochure, online application forms and much more. We hope to see YOU in August!

Rushmore National Music Camp 35th Anniversary Celebration

In celebration of the 35th anniversary of RMC, all former campers, former staff members, parents, and friends of RMC are invited to participate in the Senior High Grand Concert on Saturday, August 13, 11 A.M. at the Mount Rushmore Amphitheater. You are invited to bring your instrument and/or voice to join with the band and singers in the traditional performance of Alfred Reed's "Rushmore." Following the concert, everyone is invited to join camp founders, Paul and Lois Hedge, and current and former staff and directors in a pay-as-you-go lunch in the Rushmore Cafeteria. A 35th Anniversary cake will be shared as a finale to the celebration. Lifetime memories and lifetime friends have been made at Rushmore. We hope that you will include this special reunion time in your summer plans!

2005 Camps Are Gearing Up!

After a successful Junior High camp in 2004, plans are being made to again enjoy the wonderful facilities and beautiful campus offered by Northern State University in Aberdeen for the 2005 Junior High Camp. Guest conductor for the week will be Gary Hansen, from Rapid City, SD. Guest choral conductors will be Ellen Diischer,

from Hastings, MN and Deb Yess, from Waseca, MN. Other staff members will include: Frederick Hemke, Northern State University, flute; Dave Martinson, Sturgis, clarinet and sax; Ellen Diischer, Hastings, MN oboe; Paul Casey Danielson, Iola WI, trumpet and horn; Jerome Letcher, Aberdeen, low brass; and Jim Panerio, Aberdeen, percussion. The Junior High final concert will be held on Friday, August 5 at 11:00 A.M. in the Johnson Fine Arts Center Main Theater. Great recording facilities, free parking and comfortable seating will again be available. Camp will end after this final concert. More details about Junior High 2005 are available in the camp brochure, which may be found online at rushmoremusiccamp.com. Check it out!

2005 Rushmore Senior High Camp will be held August 7-13 at Camp Judson, near Keystone, South Dakota. We look forward again to the use of the beautiful new dining facility and we're anxious to see what other new things we might find at Camp Judson! Senior High staff will include: Dr. Al LaFave, NSU, clarinet, Frederick Hemke, NSU Aberdeen, sax; Dr. Paul Moxness, Mankato State University, bassoon; Dr. Harry Krueger, Sioux Falls, trumpet and Brass Choir; Larry Peterson, Iowa City, IA, French horn and trumpet; Dr. Randy Kohlenberg, Greensboro, NC, low brass; Terry Beckler, Marshall MN, percussion; Dr. Diana Moxness, Mankato State University, voice; Ellen Diischer, choir, Rushmore Singers and oboe; guest conductor will again be Dr. Dale Lonis from the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, MB. , Jazz Night will be held on Friday, August 12 at the Rushmore Amphitheater, and the final concert will be presented at 11 A.M. on Saturday, August 13.

Notes from 2004 Camps

We've heard it over and over again from campers: counselors "make" the camp! Our new and returning counselors continue the strong Rushmore tradition of music mentoring for our young students and provide Rushmore Music Camp with the "at home" atmosphere that appeals to so many young people.

Counselors who returned to provide leadership in 2004 included: ReNae Jackson, Nancy Schlepp Kindlespire, Shari Biers, Mark Diischer, Joe Henry and

Kristen Winegar (who we last knew as Kristen Gleason!). Christy Leichtnam and Laura Peterson also returned in their roles of Head Counselors.

The Rushmore family again increased its numbers in 2004 by welcoming several new staff members. New Junior High counselors were: Karen Tiejien, Music Ed major and horn player, (and, we discovered, finder of free ice cream!!!) from Milbank, SD; Kristen Letcher, former camper and clarinetist from Aberdeen; Brooks Bowman, Music Ed major and sax player from Dekalb, Ill. and Rodd Bauck, NSU Music Ed student, trombone player, and camp recording expert from Pierre, SD.

New counselors Senior High week were: Jenna Jensen, NSU clarinet player and Music Ed major from Groton, SD; Brian Harding, NSU trumpet player and Music major from Sioux Falls; and Reid Johnson, NSU trumpet player. Thanks to all of these gifted counselors who brought their own unique talents to add to the camp experience!

Junior High Camp 2004 Quiz

2004 Junior Campers: can you answer the following?

1. What famous nursery rhyme character was used by guest conductor Mr. Hansen to help the band play 6/8 rhythms more accurately?

2. Which student talent act was performed in silence?

3. What is the name of the new glow-in-the-dark skeleton that Mrs. Yess gave Mrs. Diischer to use for teaching voice?

4. What was the name of the park where campers and staff enjoyed food cooked by Dr. LaFave and Dr. Moxness, AND where campers skated, biked, played volleyball, and drove go-carts?

5. What camp tradition was carried out on the morning of the last day of camp?

(Answers: Humpty-Dumpty; "Humpty-Dumpty, diddle dee doo;" a demonstration of Tae Kwan Do;

Caruso; Wylie Park; the faculty Woodwind Quintet Breakfast Concert)

How did you do? We hope you'll come back to camp in 2005 and become part of our Rushmore Camp activities!

Rushmore Music Camp Endowment Fund

Rushmore Music Camp prepares for its 35th season in 2005! Thanks to the support of many RMC friends, this special camp will continue to bring great musical experiences to students for years to come. Would you like to be part of RMC's future as well as its past? Please consider contributing to the Rushmore Music Camp Endowment Fund!

As a non-profit organization, RMC counts on your support. Our goal is to attain **100 percent participation** from current and former RMC campers and staff in the RMC Endowment Fund. No gift is too small (or too large)! Donations may be made in a number of ways:

- To the RMC Endowment Fund (only the interest is used)
- To the RMC Special Projects Fund (for scholarships, instruction, or equipment)
- To the Cathy Hedge Frederick Memorial Scholarship Fund
- To RMC through your local United Way
- To RMC with matching funds from area businesses or corporations

Donations may be sent to Peggy Letcher, Registrar, at 1609 S. 3rd St., Aberdeen, SD 57401. Thank you for your support in the past and in the present!

Senior High Campers and Parents: Camp 2005 is the same week as the Sturgis Bike Rally! Get those reservations made now if you haven't done so already!

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