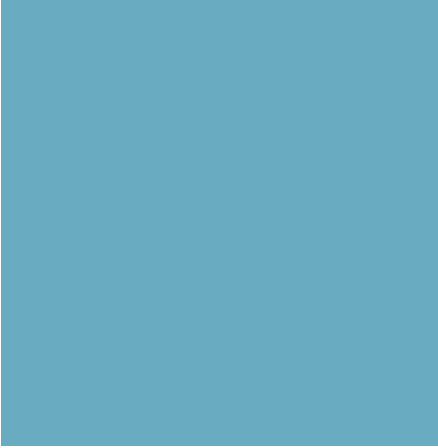


AMUUSE News

Here Comes Nostalgia!

AMUUSE's June Saugatuck, MI retreat!

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May 13-15, 2011

Glen Helen Preserve,
Yellow Spring, OH

Rosie Beymer

For more information, contact:
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rosie.beymer@att.net

Yellow Springs Fever

Join fellow AMUUSE folk at the beautiful Glen Helen preserve in Yellow Springs, Ohio for this last weekend getaway before the official 2011 camp season.

We'll meet on Friday evening, satisfy our feverish appetites for hugs and Beymer Stew, and then possibly take a trip to Young's Dairy for ice cream.

Saturday morning we'll have some fun on-site in a morning group or two. In the afternoon you can hike the trails in the woods and admire the flora, look for fauna, visit the on-site raptor center, shop in the artsy town of Yellow Springs or just catch up on the

details of each other's lives. We'll see what culinary delights await us for dinner then gather for more AMUUSE-style fun in the evening.

Sunday morning we'll have a light breakfast, break camp, then probably go to Young's again for lunch before heading home.

Send your registration and \$70 for the weekend to Rosie Beymer, 9505-1 LaGrange Rd., Louisville KY 40242

-- Rosie Beymer



“This is YOUR organization, your place to grow and experience new things and to relax among friends!”

-- Gwen Valore

Waiting For Spring... A Message from AMUUSE's President

Upcoming events and ideas for AMUUSE

I'm still waiting for a real Spring, but I believe it will be here... soon. The grass here is still brownish and the buds on the trees are still pretty small and compact, but the daffodils are out and peony shoots are popping up. But, we had an inch or two of snow a couple days ago. Old Man Winter doesn't give up easily.

I am excited, though. AMUUSE is also sending its shoots up into the sunshine. We have a May weekend coming right after Mother's day and June camp will be here in no time. Our March weekend was a lot of fun, and I want everyone to beware of the crazy domino players coming out of the woodwork! This year we are examining new ways to get together as AMUUSErs. Although the Saug site may not be available to us forever and although it has been a wonderful fun and spiritual place for us, Saugatuck is not AMUUSE. WE, the campers, are AMUUSE. AMUUSE is our energy, our spirit, and our love. AMUUSE will be wherever we are whether in a large group or a small group, in a living room or on a cruise ship

or in a tent in a campground.

We carry that spirit in our hearts and souls.

As you read on in this newsletter, you will find both a renewal of ideas (t-shirts are coming) and a birth of new ones (WinWin Fundraiser and AMUUSE cruise). Your Board is open to ideas to help spread the word of who we are and what we represent for singles. We want to hear from you, so don't hesitate to email or call your camp rep or Board Officers. You could even write a letter to the editor of the newsletter or write an article. This is YOUR organization, your place to grow and experience new things and to relax

among friends. Let's hold each other in our

hearts until we meet again.

Love,

Gwen



Win-Win Fundraiser

We have lots of talented artisans in our camp community. We're considering an art fair (not as big as the Ann Arbor Art Fair but close) where you can show off your works and sell them with a portion of the profits going to AMUUSE.

Our intention is to have this fair as a one-time event at each camp. We need lots of participants in order for this to be a success. Before we proceed with the details, we'd like to hear from our artists. If you are interested in participating, please let me know what art you have to sell and the camp you will be attending.

This could be a fun addition to our camp program!

Kathe Merritt

kbricmont@att.net

(419) 866-2012



Here Comes Nostalgia!

Our theme for June camp this year is the Fab '50s! Now given the complexity of the 2000s --- social media sites, political vitriol, economic chaos, excess traffic, declining moral values, aren't we wishing---truly longing for the years that warmed our hearts and brought us contentment?

We will get back to the 'sane' years with a return to the fifties---yes those grand simple '50s---when there was no Super Bowl, when there was no cable, when there were no cell phones! What we will revisit --- the Sock Hop; the drive-in; the music---Elvis, Bill Haley, The Drifters; the fashion---poodle skirts, saddle shoes; the fads---hula hoops; the famous politicians---Ike, Adlai Stevenson, Richard Nixon! And for those who weren't around during those years, come and see what IT WAS LIKE! Party like it's 1958!

We have assembled a superb staff to enable you to have a wonderful revisit of that 'hopeful' decade. So get out those old tunes, get to your favorite old clothes shop and get ready to be a "nifty fifty." We'll see you on rockin' June 12!! Be there or be square!

--Sheldon Beck

June 12-18, 2011
Saugatuck, MI

Sheldon Beck, Director

For more information, contact:
Sheldon Beck

(248) 974-6927,

Email:

sheldonbeck@hotmail.com

Saugatuck Campgrounds Update

The AMUUSE board has been in contact with the Chicago Presbytery regarding the status of the Saugatuck campgrounds. As many of you know, the campgrounds are for sale with an asking price of \$14 million.

The Presbytery earlier had two interested parties, both of which were willing to continue operating the grounds for camping, albeit at a higher level requiring millions of dollars in additional improvements. In the end, however, neither party was able to consummate the deal. One, Lakeshore Christian Camping, could not qualify for a bank loan because it lacked an adequate down payment. The other party, a Michigan partnership, which was an all cash buyer, could not reach agreement with the Presbytery over certain terms of sale.

The property is on the market again. Two new buyers are expressing interest, although no offers have come forth. Neither plans to keep the grounds for camping. At this point, the Chicago Presbytery is willing to sell to any party on mutually acceptable terms.

The State of Michigan does protect the dunes and the City of Saugatuck has environmental restrictions on the grounds. A potential buyer would have to abide with these restrictions. Lawsuits sometimes can effect changes in restrictions. That is an issue for a potential buyer to consider.

Armena



Attention AMUUSE Shoppers!

For all our fashionistas out there, and that includes you men too, we're offering you an opportunity to jazz up your wardrobes with authentic AMUUSE gear. There will be tee shirts for sale this year. Each year will have its own unique color and will display the AMUUSE name. It's sure to revive cherished memories for years to come when worn proudly. You can start your collection now.

When you receive your camp letter confirming your registration, look for the enclosed form to place your order. It's anticipated that the shirt will cost about \$15. Sale proceeds will be used to augment our treasury.

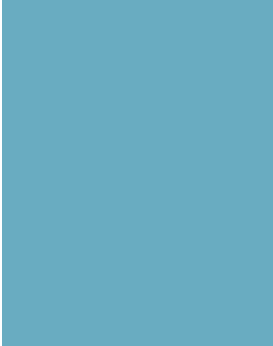
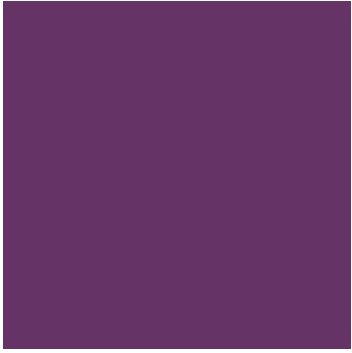
Why you ask? It's conceivable that our Saugatuck location may be changed in upcoming years out of necessity. We've learned that some sites require larger deposits than the Saugatuck location. If so, we need to have adequate funds to secure the chosen site.

And speaking of shopping, in the past there's been some talk of a group cruise. Now is a good time to see how many campers are truly interested. If enough people express interest, the board will undertake the necessary planning details.

A cruise would not replace any of our camps. It would be an additional event. And a lot of details need to be worked out. If there is sufficient interest, we'll continue exploring and keep you informed.

Right now, if you think you are *likely* to participate in a cruise, please e-mail Gwen Valore at Gwenvaleo@gmail.com and let her know.

Armena



Ramblings and Different Points of View

I do not get to talk to everyone at camp. And I don't remember everything I hear. If you want to submit a paragraph about yourself, these can be included in the newsletter. If you are interesting in becoming a camp rep or running for president, this is a good introduction.

The different points of view come from sales to members. We don't want to become a bazaar. But, I like to support people I know. Sales on camp property are still against our bylaws. But knowing where someone works or what he or she sell is passive. Email Murphy about your thoughts on including a reference sheet on where members work or what they sell. Nothing will be printed without your permission.

---John Murphy

Saugatuck, MI

August Blurb!

Can you think of anything better than being at Saugatuck with 70 or 80 of your closest friends? There is sure to be laughter, good conversation, dancing, the water will be just right for swimming and the shooting stars will be out. Reserve your spot today!

Can you believe - this is AMUUSE's 40th anniversary?

See you there!

Raoul

What Color is AMUUSE?

What colors do you think of when you think of your experiences at camp? Some say a single color, because its a singles camp. The problem with a single color is with the text and paper the same color, it's hard to read. Let Murphy know your thoughts email

murphyj@ameritech.net with color in the subject.

And while you are writing/emailing, if you have any interesting ideas, or a picnic with free food, or a life event, an article can be added to the newsletter.

Recruiting

The brochure is GREAT (Thanks Gwen). So let's get out there and **RECRUIT, RECRUIT, RECRUIT**. Remember: AMUUSE doesn't just "happen". We all found out about AMUUSE through a brochure or face-to-face contact with a camper or the website. *Someone* took an active role in bringing that wonderful camp to your attention. Now it's your

turn.

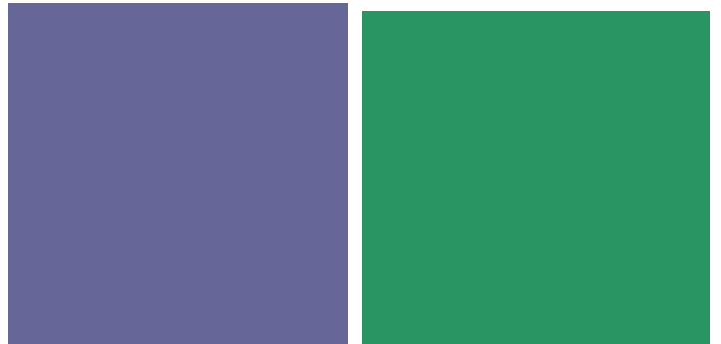
So tell your single next-door neighbor, dog groomer, kid's music teacher, grocery clerk, librarian and plumber about AMUUSE. Tell your married friends

about AMUUSE so they can pass the word to *their* single friends and relatives.

Just think: if we all recruited just **one** single person

[bonus bounty on men ☺] our beloved camp would be rocking into the future.

Coming off a terrific AMUUSE weekend with hugs for all.



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