A Letter From the Executive Director

"By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."
- John 15:8

Dear Friends,

At one time in my life I had the great fortune of working in the Northern California wine business. I worked for two iconic Sonoma County wineries, Dry Creek Vineyard and Arista. To this day, I still continue my relationship with that part of the world, and I always plan an annual vacation to coincide with the grape harvest season. That part of the year in wine country is very special to me. The sights, aromas, harvest dinners, grape juice sampling, warm days, cool evenings, and most importantly, the beautiful fruit, all blend together to create indelible memories for me. Even as I type this I am taken over with a rush of excitement and longing for that time and place.

Like the annual grape harvest, the Barbara C. Harris Center bears an annual fruit of its own: fond memories, special friendships and mountain top moments to name just a few.
When I speak with people about their time at the camp and conference center I am often struck by the stories and vivid images that they have from their time spent here with us. Yes, they like the food, the peaceful trails and comfortable beds, but what everyone really remembers are the intimate conversations, the new friendships and the occasional life-altering epiphanies that coincide with their visit. The Barbara C. Harris Center is a special community, a place for all the diversity of God's Kingdom to convene, make indelible memories and harvest lifelong bonds.

At the Barbara C. Harris Center, we intentionally keep the rates low so that more people might be able to take advantage of our special place. Because of this, the center's expenses are often higher than our income and we rely upon our Annual Fund to close the gap. Please consider a gift to the 2018 Annual Fund campaign: "Bearing Fruit" and help sustain this wonderful place. The miracle of the camp and conference center is made possible only through your support!

Sincerely,

John Koch
Executive Director
of the BCH Center staff. From landscaping the grounds and plowing snow to constructing new walls and fixtures and everything in between, Rory’s work is easily visible by all guests visiting the BCH Center. Rory lives in the neighboring town of Bennington and spends his spare time with his 7 year old son, Connor, riding bikes, playing baseball and going on adventures.

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2019 Folk Art Retreat
*Wednesday, February 20th - Friday, February 22nd*

The perfect opportunity for beginner artists to escape to the snowy woods of Greenfield, NH. Enjoy a relaxing midweek retreat offering good company, great food and the chance to learn a new skill.

*February classes being offered:*

**Painting 101:**
A chance to explore your hidden passion for painting with an introduction to watercolor painting. Taught by Portland, Maine based artist Erin McGee Ferrell, you will learn professional techniques in a fun, positive environment.

**Intro to Knitting:**
Learn the timeless art of knitting, with a relaxing course teaching you all the basics needed to help get you started. Taught by Western Massachusetts based clergy member Cricket Cooper.

**Learn to Quilt:**
From patterns, materials and types of quilts, to making your very own masterpiece. Learn how to quilt as you embrace the tranquility of the BCH Center. Taught by long time guest and quilter Vickie Hill.

2019 Quilting Retreat
*Friday, February 22nd - Sunday, February 24th*

Have a quilt that needs finishing? Looking to start a new project or your very first quilt?

Join us for our 2nd Annual Quilting Retreat, a fun weekend filled with laughter, new friends, great food and lots of creativity!

Quilters of all abilities are welcome. This retreat is intended to give you the free time needed to begin, work on, or finish a project without any formal instruction.

Two-night/six-meal packages starting at $180/per person with the option to stay for FREE by donating a handmade twin or double sized quilt for our lodge rooms!
Looking to host a retreat to the Conference Center?

Please contact Jennifer Boyd for all BCH Conference Center questions, inquiries, or to schedule a campus tour.

jennifer@bchcenter.org or (603) 547-3400

What's New at the BCH Center?

New Lights in the Doran Center!

As we constantly continue to update our meeting spaces and lodging areas, some changes may stand out brighter than others. The new lights and paint in the Jack Doran Lakeview Center are one of the most noticeable updates across the campus this season. The new lights are not only more sustainable but offer a brighter, more natural light. With the ability to run a dimmer switch, the lighting can be perfectly adjusted for any time of day or night. Make sure you check them out on your next visit!
BCH Camp 2018 was a big success! We truly enjoyed all the amazing campers and the experiences that we shared here this summer. My goal for this past camp season was to provide an opportunity for both campers and staff alike to have a great summer. This was a very broad expectation but with the assistance of our faith formation theme, The Fruit of the Spirit, we were able to support everyone in achieving this goal!

One of the highlights of this past summer was the enthusiasm for musicals. Our Drama, Dance, and Music program staff combined forces to perform 5 mini musicals throughout the camp sessions. The campers seemed to really enjoy it and it is my hope to carry this program forward and into next summer!

Thank you to those who have completed surveys about the 2018 summer camp experience. This information has provided us with lots of feedback and suggestions on the direction and path of BCH Camp. One of the main themes that has stood out from the surveys is that BCH Camp is a place that friendships are not only created but sustained and renewed as well. These connections that are made, are the true meaning of camp. There has been plenty of other feedback as well including some comments on offering new program options and some different activities too. All the feedback has been incredibly helpful and can help us with the structure of camp. And while BCH Camp provides the space, activities, traditions, faith formation and the food, our campers and our staff create the opportunity to bring these items together for an overall great experience.

Planning for summer 2019 is currently underway. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please let me know. BCH Camp is truly successful when the values and memories of camp continue beyond the end of summer.

Happy Fall,

Doug Sutherland
Camp Director

BCH Camp Summary
BCH Kitchen Featured Recipe

Three Sisters Stew

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 Cups Brown or Cremini Mushrooms
- 1 1/2 Cups Oyster or Portobello Mushrooms
- 1 Cup Onions (Chopped)
- 2 Cloves Garlic (Minced)
- 1 tsp Vegetable Oil
- 1 tsp Dill (Fresh Picked/Chopped)
- 1 1/2 Sprigs Thyme (Fresh)
- 3 Cups Butternut Squash (Diced)
- 1 Red Bell Pepper (Chopped)
- 2 Cups Vegetable Stock
- 1 Cup Corn Kernels (Frozen or Fresh)
- 1 Cup Kidney Beans (Cooked)

Preparation Steps:

- Wash and quarter mushrooms. Set aside.
- Heat vegetable oil in large soup pot and saute onions and garlic until onions are translucent.
- Add dill and thyme and cook for 2 more minutes.
- Add squash, pepper, mushrooms and vegetable stock. Simmer until squash is tender. Add vegetable base.
- Stir in beans and corn and return to a simmer.
- Add vinegar, salt and pepper.
- Add cornmeal and simmer until soup has thickened.

Cooking Temperature: 180 degrees

Cooking Time: 60 minutes
- 1 TBL Apple Cider Vinegar  
- 1/4 Cup Cornmeal  
- 1 1/4 TBL Vegetable Base  
- Salt and Pepper *(To Taste)* 

Cooking Time: 60 minutes  
Yields: 10 servings  
Serving Size: 8oz  
ENJOY!

BCH Camp is accredited by the American Camp Association. ACA accreditation assures parents that camp practices have met national standards around health, safety, program quality, and facilities.

Stay Connected with us:

Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center | 603.547.3400 | info@bchcenter.org | http://www.bchcenter.org

Refresh - Reflect - Renew