

Special Times

News from Camp Mowana, home of Hoppy's Cave and beautiful Fleming Falls.

WINTER 2003

Camp Mowana

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From the Director...

Something *really* exciting has started to happen at Mowana in recent months! "What could be more exciting than the completion of a brand-new, adult retreat facility?" you might ask. Only one thing. And that is that people who have never come to camp for a retreat before (at least as an *adult*), are discovering new opportunities for faith renewal through the new **Fleming Falls Retreat Center**. This facility is literally opening the camp up to people who have not previously been able or willing to experience outdoor ministry as an adult. Praise God! These *are* exciting times. And because these are also *difficult* times for many, marked by stress and uncertainty, it is perhaps more important than ever that there be a special 'place apart' where people can go for reflection, relaxation and renewal within a caring, Christian community. This has always been true for children and youth at Mowana; now the doors are wide open for people of *all* ages to share in that special experience we know as Mowana! Please join us!

Eric Kretzmann, Director

OUTDOOR EDUCATION TAKES OFF!

Classes from schools in the Mansfield-Ashland area are beginning to discover the wealth of Outdoor Education opportunities available at Mowana through a new program called **Mowana Outdoor Learning Experience**, or M.O.L.E. The program, in development over the past year, is specifically designed to meet the need for one-day Outdoor Education experiences. A wide variety of programs are available, depending upon grade level and specific classroom needs. Mike Hughes, Program Director, emphasizes Mowana's ability to tailor lessons to specific learning objectives. "Mowana is ideally suited for this kind of program, with its wide variety of terrain and habitats. We can do everything from pond and stream exploration, to geology, to pioneer studies, to group-building and much more!" For more information about M.O.L.E., call Mike at 419-589-7406.

SUMMER'S NOT FAR AWAY!

Summer 2003 at Mowana promises to be another *awesome* summer of fun, challenge and growing together in the faith! Mowana will be offering a full range of **youth camping** programs for children and youth, Kindergarten through Senior High, including several new programs. The 2003 LOMO Summer Brochure is being sent to all ELCA congregations, as well as to all of last summer's campers. If you would like additional copies, you can contact either Mowana at 419-589-7406, or the LOMO Office at 1-800-431-5666. Making sure that kids have the opportunity to attend summer camp at Mowana is one of the best investments you can make in their spiritual futures!

In addition, this summer will see the expansion of Mowana's successful **family camping** program to four, week-long programs during July. Family camping at Mowana offers a wide range of options including swimming, sports, Bible study, hiking, community servant projects, campfires, canoeing, crafts and more! Housed in the new Fleming Falls Retreat Center, family camping at Mowana offers a unique opportunity to experience a 'vacation with a purpose' that you will never forget! Consider inviting several families from your congregation to attend during the same week. Details are described in the LOMO Summer Brochure, but feel free to contact us at 419-589-7406 for more information about this exciting new opportunity at Mowana!



Sixth-graders from Eastview Elementary School near Mansfield learn about the food chain by dissecting owl pellets during an outdoor education session at Camp Mowana.



Mowana's Fall Scenic Journey in October included visits to a number of scenic and historic sites across Kentucky and Tennessee, including an over-night stay at historic Shaker Village.

FIRST ELDERHOSTEL A HIT!

They came from eight states, from New York to California, to spend a week at the new Fleming Falls Retreat Center learning about **Ohio's Presidents** and **Ohio's Literary Heritage**. Mowana's Elderhostel program utilizes some of the excellent resources available through Ohio's various presidential centers, including an all-day field trip to the Hayes Presidential Center in Fremont. Reaction to the program by participants, some of whom had attended more than 100 Elderhostels, was very positive. Elderhostel is a widely-acclaimed program offering life-long learning opportunities for senior adults. Mowana's Elderhostel program will be offered again in the spring, April 27 to May 2. To request an Elderhostel catalog, or for more information, you can call Elderhostel toll-free at 1-877-426-8056. Registration and payment are handled through the Elderhostel offices.

PRESENTERS AVAILABLE

Mowana staff are available to visit congregations on Sunday mornings to make presentations about Lutheran Outdoor Ministries and specific opportunities at Mowana. We can preach, we can sing, we can dance! Well, maybe not dance, but we *can* offer a variety of presentations tailored to your group setting and your needs. So whether it's during worship, Sunday School or some other time, let us help you lift-up outdoor ministry in your congregation. Just give us a call!



More than 400 people enjoyed a beautiful fall day at Mowana's annual Fall Festival and Benefit Auction in October. The Benefit Auction raised \$4,500 toward summer campships.

2003's Fall Festival will be on October 19th.

Mark your calendars now!

Remember, for information on Mowana's upcoming events, please either give us a call or check out our web-site at www.mowana.com.



Some special needs...

While construction of the Fleming Falls Retreat Center was completed last summer, all of the necessary furnishings and equipment are *not* yet in place. Want to help? Some of our major, remaining needs yet to be funded include:

tables and chairs, dishes, microwave ovens, under counter refrigerators, ice machines, AV carts, television, fax machine, coffee makers, lecterns, flip chart, signage

Checks can be made out to 'Expanding the Mission' and sent to either Camp Mowana or the LOMO Office.