

ALPINE ECHOES

Providing a mountaintop encounter with Jesus Christ through Christian camping

WINTER 2018

THE KEEPERS OF ALPINE

THEY ARE UNASSUMING AND HIGHLY SKILLED. They are behind-the-scenes AND can be quite noisy. They prevent problems AND they solve problems. Most importantly, they keep our campers safe, our ongoing maintenance up to date, and our grounds beautiful. **They are Alpine's facilities crew, and they truly are the "Keepers of Alpine."**



(Left to Right) The Crew: Dane, Ben, Mike (above), Troy (below), Ken, Konnor

Each day starts with a devotional. Meeting in the shop around a workbench covered with parts from current projects, both the facilities and housekeeping crews show up at 8 a.m. The devotional is read, conversation around the topic ensues, and a prayer for safety and guidance follows.

Then the fun begins. On this particular day, Ben and Dane head to the Cedar Restroom remodel project, adding grout around the well-laid tile. Konnor heads out to blow the walkways free of all the pine needles and seeds that have come down during the extreme Santa Ana winds. Mike slides under Alpine's plow truck to work on the transmission, getting it ready for winter snow removal. Troy stays in the shop to stain and varnish doors for the new bathroom remodel and Ken does his daily water level check before heading down the hill for needed parts. And the day is just getting started!

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REORGANIZE!

Alpine's 2018 Winter Camps focus on the theme of allowing God to "reorganize" our lives.

In a way, we all try to organize our lives into "boxes". We tend to think that our social life has nothing to do with our spiritual life and so forth. But, is this true? What happens when we put God inside of a box, keeping him separate from

everything else? How does He fit into our lives? Does He really have a place in other areas of our lives?

This winter, the speakers, worship leaders, counselors and program staff are all helping campers unpack these ideas while introducing them to the unconditional love of Jesus in the beautiful and fun-filled setting at Alpine Camp. 



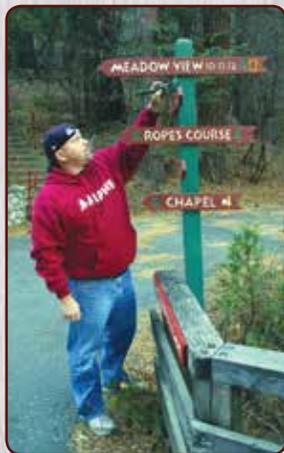
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Mike, Konnor and Ken mill lumber for projects

IN 2017 ALONE, THIS CREW COMPLETED SOME MAJOR PROJECTS:

- Shingled 4 roofs for Makuala cabins
- Put in a laundry room in the Makuala showerhouse
- Did a full remodel of Cedar bathrooms, (Phase 3)
- Got the sawmill equipment up and running
- Poured footings for new entrance sign
- Prepped 5 camp homes for new paint and replaced siding where needed
- Put in a new transmission in the '91 Dodge plowtruck
- Rebuilt heaters for pool and installed new pool pumps
- Crafted a new dish return room to the kitchen to cut down on noise and mess
- Remodeled one of the Alpine Thrift Shops to open for business
- Replaced and enhanced signage all over camp for guests



Troy puts finishing touches on new directional signs for guests

WHAT KEEPS THEM GOING?

Ken Polson, the **Facilities Manager**, has been at Alpine 16 years. "Bringing kids to Christ: that's what motivates me. Anything we do in facilities, even the small projects, all prepare for the campers' arrival. I don't like to be in the limelight, which is good since so much of what we do is behind the scenes. And right now we have the best team since I started here. Everyone has a 'let's get it done' attitude."

Ben Bohrer likes the variety of the work. "I asked God to take me somewhere that I'm needed, and He brought me to Alpine." He finds great satisfaction in knowing that the repairs, maintenance and updates they make to the camp help "our guests to hear and experience the gospel message without distraction."



Ben and Dane put finishing touches on the most recent Cedar Restroom remodel

Troy Farley's focus revolves around "clean and beautiful" projects which include painting and refinishing along with lawn and garden upkeep. "I think I'm here to make it fun and beautiful." Troy enjoys the work, but even more, he likes encouraging staff and campers along the way.

Mike Plantenga likes to "get it done right the first time!"

Wearing shorts in almost all weather, Mike is grateful to work outside. He is a perfectionist, and His attention to detail in electrical, auto repair and carpentry are greatly appreciated by the whole crew.

Dane Nissen, Alpine's newest full-time facilities staff member, and **Konnor Harriot**, seasoned part-timer, round out this crew with their youth and skill: quick to learn and eager to dig in.

Alpine sits on 46+ acres. There are 27 buildings (some up to 85 years old) plus numerous sheds of varying sizes. There are 4 wells on the property. Numerous trails and outdoor recreation sites dot the property. This is all under the care of these dedicated Keepers of Alpine. It also takes financial assistance from many champions of Alpine. But from this dedicated crew it takes blood, sweat, and yes even tears, to keep this place of so much ministry safe, secure and beautiful. **Day to day, project to project, our Keepers of Alpine serve with the bigger picture in mind: to provide a mountaintop encounter with Jesus Christ through Christian camping.**





THOUGHTS

- Joel Rude, Executive Director

Have you been to a Work and Worship weekend at Alpine? Well, here is your invitation!

We have two coming up: one in May and one in September. It's free of charge, and here's why we do it:

Alpine exists to help churches disciple their children. That task is not meant to be left to professionals alone. It is meant for parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents and others in the "village." **Work and Worship Weekends at Alpine are ideal for the building of relationships with each other and with Jesus.** These weekends are designed to strengthen church families while preparing and improving the buildings, grounds and recreation options of Alpine for its next season of either summer camps or retreats.

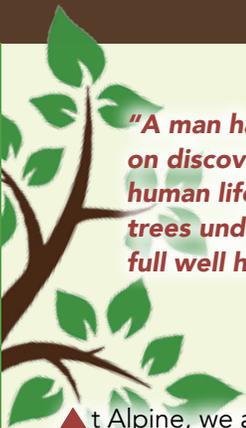
Why work AND worship? The Greek word "latreuo," used in the New Testament, is translated both as "service" AND "worship." Thinking about that gives deeper meaning to the term "worship service." As a child, I couldn't wait for my camp's Work and Worship Weekends...it meant being with families and friends I loved, playing at a place I loved and eventually helping to improve that place as my abilities developed under the guidance of many mentors from many families over many years.



A hard-working, fun-loving group of families at Work and Worship pause for a photo op

Working AND worshipping in the same place produces a unique familiarity and ownership. Parents come to build, paint, clean and serve while their children work (or play) alongside them. Either way, over the years, **children and adults have worshiped while they worked...**or played... at Alpine and at many other camps, because God's creation, and His presence, simply brought it out of them. 🌲

GIVING SMART



"A man has made at least a start on discovering the meaning of human life when he plants shade trees under which he knows full well he will never sit."

- D. Elton Trueblood
Quaker Theologian

At Alpine, we are gratefully dependent on the generosity of others. Checks in the mail are our most common source of donations. We also encourage online giving through www.alpine-cc.org, a convenient and safe option. Alpine can also receive gifts of stock, legacy gifts (in your will or trust), qualified charitable distributions from your IRA, as well as grants. If you are interested in donating in a new way, but would like counsel on the process, Ingrid Prater, our regional rep from Covenant Trust Company, would love to be of assistance with no obligation. Please contact her at ikprater@covenanttrust.com, or call 1-619-376-4969.

THE MANY FACES OF GIVING

Memorials and In-Honor donations given to Alpine during 2017 totaled \$4,240.

Financial gifts were donated in memory of the following dear people:

- Virginia Carlson
- John Erling Fredrickson
- David Johnson
- Stan Moore
- Motoy Nakamura
- Jim Stayboldt
- Bob and Maryann Swanson
- Phil Thorsell

Peace to their memory...

Donations were also made in living honor of the following:

- Barbara Colvin

Many thanks to those who gave these gifts which benefit scholarships, special projects and daily operations for the ongoing ministry at Alpine.

NICK VON STEIN, Youth Pastor and Alpine's Board Chair, and his wife Breanna, are major donors to Alpine because **"I know my gifts are making an impact. I see that impact tangibly lived out in my students' lives and I experience that impact personally every time I go to Alpine."**

Find out how you can join the champions of Alpine through giving. Check us out online at www.alpine-cc.org, or call 1-800-350-6289. 🌲





P.O. Box 155
Blue Jay, CA 92317

PRAY WITH US!

Resources for projects:
basketball court asphalt, new
roofing, Cedar showers.

Summer Staff recruitment
happening now...Need 50
qualified college-age staff.

Skilled volunteers
always needed!

Outdoor Education
seasonal staff begins serving
school groups in March.

UPCOMING PROGRAMMED EVENTS

All are welcome. To register, visit www.alpine-cc.org or call (800) 350-6289.

WORK AND WORSHIP FAMILY CAMPS:

MAY 11-13 • SEPTEMBER 21-23

MAKUALA VILLAGE ELEMENTARY CAMPS:

JUNE 25-29

Day Camp #1

JULY 2-4

Day Camp #2

JULY 5-8

Resident Camp #1 (*Waiting List*)

JULY 8-13

Resident Camp #2

JULY 15-20

Resident Camp #3

JULY 22-27

Resident Camp #4

JULY 29-AUGUST 3

Resident Camp #5

SAWMILL CAMPS (JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH)

JULY 5-8

Breakaway Junior High #1

JULY 8-13

MAC High School

JULY 22-27

Breakaway Junior High #2

JULY 29-AUGUST 3

MAC Combo (*Waiting List*)
(Junior High and High School)

WOMEN'S AND MEN'S RETREATS

OCTOBER 12-14

Women's Retreat

NOVEMBER 2-4

Men's Retreat

Contact us for information
on booking your own group's
camp, retreat, team-building
or banquet experience.

