

## WORK WEEK

- Sam Busskohl

It's that time of year again already! Work Week is just around the corner May 15th through the 20th. Work Week is always a great time in which we prepare camp for the upcoming season of ministry. Cross Bar X has always relied on volunteer help to keep the facility going as well as add to it from building the very first lodge, to re-planting the flower beds out front. There are always lots of projects ongoing. We have projects for anyone willing to help

for any amount of time, ranging from cleaning to carpentry. We are always in need of an extra hand to get things done around our 150-acre ranch to ensure that things are ready to go for the nearly 1,000 kids that will come through the facilities between June and November!



Work Week is also a great way to show your support for the camp in a very tangible way whether you can spend the whole week building a fence or just a few hours working in a garden bed. There are also opportunities to re-connect with staff, both past and present, and

lots of folks who have served the camp faithfully in other capacities year after year. We also plan evening programming each night to relax and fellowship together as a body of believers including worship, games, and of course, food.

Best of all we have accommodations available at the camp for those who serve and all meals for the week are included. If you have any questions or would like to be part of Work Week this year please get in touch with us by phone or by email. Hope to see you soon!



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# RANCH REPORT



**At CBX**, we don't often talk about our needs. Sure we send out an email looking for more staff or volunteers to cook or help out, but it's not often we discuss the actual financial and physical needs it takes to keep CBX operating. I was challenged recently by a friend who reminded me to appeal to God for extra grace when we feel weary in His service. Hebrews 4:16 implores us to draw near to the throne of grace so that we may receive mercy and find grace in our time of need.

I think weary is an accurate estimation of what it's like to consistently find the support and resources we need to keep CBX going. As a board member recently observed, "CBX just doesn't make sense when you look at it from a traditional business model standpoint!" His statement wasn't an observation of the state of how



CBX's ministry is operating, but a declaration of God's provision at CBX over the past 40 years. When you look at the cost of reaching socially and economically disadvantaged kids year round through the ministry of CBX, The economics are challenging. Each camper CBX reaches increases the funds we have to secure to keep the doors open. At the same time, there has never been a greater need for the ministry work of CBX with 50% of American youth experiencing divorce in their homes by the time they

## 40 YEARS IN

### Camp Needs Looking Forward - Tim Miller

turn 18 and a few number of families attending church than at any point over the past 100 years.



Yet here we are celebrating our 40th summer of sharing the Hope of Jesus Christ with campers at CBX. Over that time, God has faithfully provided for the needs of CBX, while also providing the grace and mercy to those that labor at CBX so that they do not grow weary. When I find myself staring down the bleak outlook of the line items on a profit and loss statement or telling my staff to find creative solutions to economic shortcomings, the peace found at the throne of grace is most needed. I am reminded here that tomorrow looks promising for CBX, not because our staff, board, or efforts are great, but because our Savior is greater than any problem we will ever face or dream up. 2 Corinthians 12:9 reminds us that His grace is sufficient as His power is made perfect in our weakness. Therefore boast of our weakness so that we can experience the power of Christ! Nowhere have I seen this more true than in the kingdom work at CBX!

Cross Bar X has a significant need

for your support. We have taken drastic measures to cut costs over the past few years and are still experiencing many challenges financially. Specifically, with an aging facility, we have several major maintenance needs on the 1-5 year horizon. Eagle and Alpine Lodge are both experiencing log decay and rot. This year we will begin a long term plan of building restoration. Even with us recruiting volunteers to perform the majority of the work in house, the materials needed for restoration are expensive. Additionally, the camp has high priority repairs needed with it's water system storage cistern, camp entrance, and horse facilities. With the challenges to meet our basic budgetary needs every year, funding for the above projects is not available.

Feel led to support the work at CBX? Here are some online resources to get you going.

- Donations can be made at <http://www.crossbarx.org/donate-now/donate>
- The camp wishlist can be viewed at <http://www.crossbarx.org/donate-now/wishlist>
- Smaller items of regular need can be purchased from our wishlist online at Amazon <http://a.co/6AmreZa>
- Support one of Team CBX's Iron Horse bike riders at <https://www.classy.org/campaign/bike-it-for-a-camper/c119961>

Thank you so much for your support and prayers!



## CAMP PROGRAM

Looking Forward - Zac Smalley

Everything at CBX kicks into high gear this time of year as we look at the fast-approaching summer! Some camps are already full while others are filling up quickly, and our summer staff are rolling in on May 26th. As I look forward at summer 2017, I can't help getting excited. We have some fantastic Bible lessons planned for this summer, studying the book of Jonah! Our theme is "Set Sail!" a look at how each of us responds to God's Word in our lives.

As always, we have a full lineup of activities for our campers of Bible lessons, worship, skits, memory verses, swimming in the lake, ropes course, zip line, archery range, horseback riding, awesome games, and more! It is our desire to display the Gospel and share the love of Christ through every single thing that we do here at camp. Please pray for clear presentation of the Gospel, changed lives, safety, fun, and good weather :) And if you can, come out and join us as a volunteer cook or Bible teacher!



## RETREAT and FOLLOW-UP - Mary Beth Ward

We just finished a super fun retreat for 8-11 year olds! It was so great hanging out with returning campers, and connecting with kids who are coming to CBX for the first time!

Our weekend was Easter themed, and some of our activities included egg dying, ziplining, crafts, and a camp-wide Easter egg hunt!

We had lots of fun during these activities, but the most important part of the weekend were the Bible lessons. Our very own interns taught the lessons, and they did great! They spoke on the parables of the lost coin and the lost sheep, and the kids had a lot of great questions! It is so exciting to see our kids growing and learning more about the Lord!

As for other news in follow up, every week we focus on one on one discipleship, and I am glad to say that we are able to meet with 2-3 kids a week! It is so cool to be able to see the positive effects of having a consistent christian influence in our teens lives. Looking forward, one on one discipleship will continue throughout the summer, along with other follow up events.

The next event on the calendar is a camper/family dinner. Please be in prayer with us that this will be a way for CBX to invest in the lives of kids and their parents. It is our desire to reach out and share the gospel with whole families.



## 2017 Camp Schedule

Staff Training - May 26 thru June 11

Falcon 1: June 12-17

Falcon 2: June 19-24

Boys Eagle: June 26 - July 1

Girls Eagle: July 3-8

Boys Red Hawk: July 14-22

Girls Red Hawk: July 26 - August 3

Condor Expeditions: August 7-12

Please be in prayer for the campers, counselors, and staff as God prepares all of us for his amazing work this coming summer.



## MEMORIAL GIFTS

Generous gifts were made to sponsor campers in memory of the following people. Thank you so much for your contributions in their honor.

### *In Memory of:*

Charles Arentzen  
Dorothy Oberbeck  
Bud Miller

### *Given by:*

William Hallett  
Ray and Dee Harrell  
Craig and Cathy Watters  
Donna and A.G. Walker



## NEEDS UPDATE

God has always been faithful to bring the staff we need for each summer at Cross Bar X. We trust that this summer will be no different. We are currently in need of **1 MALE COUNSELOR** to complete our summer staff team. If you know of any young men looking for a way to serve God and work with youth this summer, please refer them to Zac at [zac@crossbarx.org](mailto:zac@crossbarx.org).

We also still need **VOLUNTEER COOKS for 3 of our summer camps**. The dates we need help are June 26-July 1, July 3-8, and July 26-August 3. If you would like to volunteer for any these weeks and be a huge part of camp in action, or if you would like to coordinate volunteers from your church, please contact Jacob at [jacob@crossbarx.org](mailto:jacob@crossbarx.org).

**MAY 27** is the Iron Horse Classic and the annual Bike It 4 A Camper fundraiser. Cross Bar X has generously received several racing slots from the Iron Horse in exchange for volunteers. We are still in need of several volunteers for the day of the race. If you would be willing to donate your time on that day while enjoying a beautiful day in Silverton in our effort to raise funds for low-income campers, please contact Tim at [tim@crossbarx.org](mailto:tim@crossbarx.org).

Many of you give faithfully to the ministry. There are ways that many of you can make your donations go even further. Most people don't even know that their employers participate in **MATCHING GIFT PROGRAMS**. We are always in need of more funding to cover the cost for our low-income campers to attend Cross Bar X. Please prayerfully consider checking into your employer's matching gift program and selecting Cross Bar X as the recipient of your company's donations that match what you already give.

"...but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."