

FSGW GETAWAY XVII - 1981

Notes from final wrap-up meeting, October 20, 1981

ATTENDING: Nancy, Nan, Gail, Jody, Dolores, Tom McHenry, Jonathan, Don, Dean, Bill, Ursy, Jennifer, Tom Robertson.

Overall, Getaway XVII was very successful, with very few problems. The committee received many compliments from campers about how well-organized it was. We were lucky to have good weather.

Agenda: Review of organization and responsibilities  
Discussion of advantages and disadvantages of Camp #2  
Revision of registration policy

REGISTRATION: Day attendance increased markedly this year. Total number of participants was 268 Saturday and 254 Sunday, including 175 weekenders both days. Overall registration was up 23% from last year. Gail's report is attached. Clip-on tametag holders were very well received; we got most of them back to use again.

FOOD: There were many compliments and virtually no complaints about food this year--even our most consistent complainer could not find much fault with the menu. Fred was able to rent steam pans to replace the ones missing from the kitchen. Cooks were very happy this year--they were pleased to received advance information from Jody, and they liked the Camp #2 kitchen better. They find it has a better working arrangement, involving less walking and carrying, since food is stored in the kitchen instead of the pantry room in Camp #4. We had thought storage might be a problem, but it was not; there was room to store all our food and equipment in available shelves and cupboards. We had less food left over at the end of the weekend than in previous years. Total food costs will be under \$2500. Sunday night snack of leftovers from several meals was especially appreciated by campers. Jody's report is attached.

COFFEE: Bill noted one 15-minute period during the weekend when no coffee was available. Other than that, pots were perking all weekend, and Fred did an excellent job. This went much better than in some past years.

COKES: Coke Company delivered cans instead of returnable bottles. This eliminated the problem of having to urge campers to return bottles, and of having to go through trash at the end of the weekend to retrieve returnables. The small juices were very well received. We consumed less Coke this year, presumably because we had juice available, and should order less Coke next year. We collected enough money to cover out costs.

PROGRAM: Nothing but compliments on content. There were some problems with being able to hear well enough at some <sup>work</sup>shops held in outdoor areas, but most went fine. Tom suggests a reminder letter go to workshop leaders, reminding them of the day and time of their workshop. He also suggests we make it an absolute policy NEVER to have out-of-town people lead workshops. This has been attempted in past years. We had only one problem this year, but we should stick to this policy in the future. Another problem involves electric instruments. Since we don't have amplification at workshops for singers, voices are drowned out by these instruments. They are cumbersome to carry, involve considerable set-up, take-down, and tuning time, and probably should be discouraged in the future. Two-hour workshops worked well. The idea was not that they must run for 2 hours, but that enough time be allowed for all who wanted to contribute.

FRIDAY NIGHT DANCE: Steve Hickman, who had been hired to call this dance, did not show. He did, at least, arrange a substitute caller, Bruce Strand, who did a fine job. But since we had re-confirmed the engagement with Steve (several times) we could not help but feel he let us down. (He also did not show up for his workshop on Sunday, though he had been reminded of it on Saturday and said he'd be there). The dance went well, those who danced had a good time, but Pat feels many campers were just not interested in dancing. The suggestion was made



that the Friday Open Sing start later, to give the dance more time to get going before another scheduled activity starts.

SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE: Dance went well. Band consisted of members of the Sunshine Skiffle Band and the Getaway's own Anything Goes Rhythm Band.

DANCE WORKSHOPS: Better attended on Saturday than on Sunday. Some feel the term "advanced" in a workshop title scares people away. A dancer on the committee says there is so much going on at the Getaway that is not available elsewhere, and folks can dance in town any time, that even dance regulars tend to dance less at Getaway. There is some difficulty getting musicians to play for dance workshops. It was suggested that tape recordings could be used, instead of live music, at these workshops. Committee thought this acceptable, in spite of our usual informal "ban" on recorded music, because of the difficulty getting musicians. Tapes could be tailor-made, using a live band, in advance of the weekend, so music would be just the right tempo, could speed up as it went along, etc. Another suggestion was to treat dance workshops the same way we do craft workshops: we do not need two full days of dance workshops, but can have several special ones, scheduled at various times and places throughout the weekend, the same way crafts are.

CRAFTS: Having a separate Craft Lodge is a definite advantage of Camp #2; set-up and clean-up for crafts is much easier when these workshops are not competing for space with meals or other activities. If Camp #4 is used in future years, the Park should be asked if we may use the Craft Lodge there, which has always been locked in the past.

SOUND: Many thanks to Dwain and Don for filling in at the last minute. We did not have sound for announcements during the day as we had hoped. Sound people say this would mean taking up space in Dining Hall; system can be put away in a fairly small space. Don suggests using a bullhorn--which he can lend--for daytime announcements. We need better coordination during the time between end of dinner and beginning of concert to make sure set up is right.

CLEAN-UP: We did clean up, finishing in good time Monday with no particular problems. Trash bags tacked up in cabins (instead of just left there) worked well. We need to wipe off Dining Hall tables Sunday after dinner, before stacking them. Clean-up should start before the weekend, by sweeping gathering places when we arrive Friday. Clean-up chair could also be responsible for coordinating concert set-up with sound people and M.C. Area captains should see that campers staying over till Monday morning get a wake-up call so they don't keep wandering in for breakfast during clean-up.

SIGNS: Very successful--no one got permanently lost in the new camp. Four colors of surveyors tape marking a path to each of the four cabin areas was a BIG help, and got many favorable comments from campers. Paul's map was helpful; much better than the Park's version.

VOLUNTEERS: We need to get sign-up sheets to the Park early, so early arrivals can sign up for jobs, and need duplicate copies of sign-up sheets--one for Reg. Office, one for Dining Hall. Firewood chopping should be added to volunteer job list. The only problem this year was getting on-the-spot help when needed--some people did not show up for jobs they signed up for (this was attributed to the interesting workshop schedule). Committee felt reminders to campers are appropriate, but this will always be something of a problem; nothing specific (short of rather militant techniques) will completely solve it.

FIREWOOD: We had fires at the right places at the right times, thanks to Stan. Firewood workshop did not produce enough wood for the weekend. It was suggested that we make wood splitting a volunteer job--3 or 4 people for 1-2 hours. Paul's cart was very helpful for hauling wood (as well as campers' gear to cabin areas) but got heavier use than it is intended for, and may not be available next year. Committee suggests FSGW purchase a similar cart for Getaway and other use.



PARKING: We did not have any major problems with parking; Tom attributes this to the leniency of the Ranger on duty. Had we not been able to park alongside the fire road, we would have had a parking problem. At our maximum we had 110 cars. The parking lot held 50. Arranging to use the area outside Cabin 81 for weekender parking was helpful. Tom found many of our campers were not willing to be told where to park.

INVENTORY: No problems--it was very helpful this year to know in advance where all equipment was and how it would get to the Park. Monday take-home packing went MUCH better than in past years. Jennifer has list of who is storing what.

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DISCUSSION OF CAMP #2: Most folks who expressed their opinions favor Camp #2 over Camp #4. They find it prettier, more convenient, and more conducive to our kind of event. The main advantage of Camp #4 is the two large gathering spaces.

Advantages of Camp #2

Dining Hall cosier & prettier; fireplace area nice, good for evening concerts.

Kitchen better laid out for working, not a thoroughfare for campers; has steam table to keep food hot while serving.

Outdoor gathering spaces very nice; waterfront beautiful & accessible.

Separate Craft Lodge.

Whole camp nicer and prettier; cabin areas not so far from central area.

Disadvantages of Camp #2

Dining Hall just large enough to accommodate campers for meals.

Not quite as much storage in kitchen; steam table pans had to be rented.

No large gathering spaces such as the Main Lodge & Theater in Camp #4; in bad weather, gathering spaces could become crowded.

Camp #4 holds a few more campers (187 last year, as opposed to Camp #2's rated capacity of 184, which we reduced to 176 to avoid overcrowding).

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REGISTRATION POLICY: This year, our weekend registration was full two days before the deadline, with a waiting list of over 60. It turned out we were able to accommodate all FSGW members who registered before deadline. Many folkies registered for the day, and stayed in nearby motels or camping areas. Following is a clarification of registration policy:

FSGW members have first preference for Getaway weekend registration until the deadline, set by committee, and announced in the Newsletter. "FSGW members" does NOT include children of individual members, or friends of FSGW members who are not members themselves. Applicants for weekend registration MUST be members at the time of application to be given priority, but they may include their membership application and payment with Getaway application, thus becoming FSGW members. Weekend spaces will be filled in order of receipt of application within the categories of priority listed below. After the deadline, it's first come, first served, regardless of membership status.

*Spouses and* *most of Tom's folks* *subscribers* *ships*

Priority for filling Getaway spaces:

1. Invited guests and families, Getaway committee members, received by deadline
2. FSGW members received by deadline
3. Non-members received by deadline
4. All applications received after deadline

In order of receipt within each category; in case of tie, earliest postmark wins

If it is necessary to create a waiting list, these folks (members or not) should receive a phone call or letter (or both) informing them of their status, letting them know that weekend spaces will be filled from wait list if possible, and that they may still come to the Getaway by registering for the day and staying elsewhere.