
AA UPDATES

STORIES OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES – SA CAMPOUT



Sixty one Andrews Academy students just returned from the annual Student Association campout (Sept. 11 – 13, 2009). After setting up camp at Muskegon State Park, students went out to the beach to hang out for a short time, some enjoyed the hot afternoon by playing water football while others were entertained by the swimmers. After supper vespers occurred by the campfire.



Livvy Knott, SA Pastor, coordinated the spiritual program for the weekend. She invited Michael Messervy (a seminary student) to led out in vespers, Sabbath School and church. Sabbath morning church was held out on the dunes beside Lake Michigan. The theme for the weekend was how Christianity has changed the world. On Friday evening Michael Messervy first divided the group into smaller groups. Each group was to come up with the one advancement or major change in our world that occurred since they started grade school. Some suggested texting, others said we now have our first black president. Pastor Messervy then described what Rome was like prior to Christ's arrival on Earth.... At that time in Earth's history there was no value to life, because a person was just an extension of the property of the country's leader. Entertainment was watching people fight to the death, if a family didn't want their newborn baby they'd leave it at the dump to die from exposure.



Then Jesus came and turned the world upside down. People had value because we are created in God's image and are loved by Him. As a result of this Christian's began to take in orphans that would have been left to die... They began hospitals to

help suffering children. The world was turned upside down in just a few years. Pastor Messervy challenged each student to not just go to church and claim to be a Christian but to continue the revolution that Christianity began... to be active in totally changing the world for God.



Meals were organized and prepared by the SA officers. Some enjoyed creative activities while waiting for the meal. A big thank you to each officer for your hard work and for Mrs. Bank's for preparing delicious meals. Thank you Michael Hernandez, SA president, and all SA officers for your leadership. These officers put a lot of time and effort into the events of the weekend. They spent many hours preparing for the next event while others were enjoying the activity at hand. They were also very organized... they divided the group up into several teams to help prepare and then clean up after every meal. Thank you officers for your leadership.



Saturday afternoon we all went canoeing down the White River for a pleasant Sabbath afternoon canoe "hike". As we went down the river we saw snakes, turtles, sandpipers, and ducks. Most had a lot of fun canoeing and enjoying God's nature as

we experienced the trip together.



The much anticipated for event- Capture the flag – occurred Saturday night. Each student was given a glow stick to place on their wrist and then headed down to the beach for the event. The whole idea is to capture the flag from the other team's side and run back to your team without being caught. If you got caught you would be put in jail... if the line of people in jail got long enough to reach the centerline they could make a jailbreak. For almost 1 and 1/2 hours students ran back and forth in the dark to capture the flag. We had a furry “big foot” arrive in the middle of the game that caused a number of screams from unexpected students others laughed. The evening ended with smors by the campfire back at the campground.



The entire weekend was a spiritually focused fun social event to start off the school year... to get to know each other and our God more. Thank you Livvy Knott and Simone Weithers for your spiritual leadership. All returned to Andrews Academy by 3:00 pm to get ready for Monday's classes.



P.S. We've all heard of the term "servant leaders". Just wanted to let you be aware of our school's servant leader, principal White. He is not a sponsor of this SA campout event but he, as he does other years, drove up to camp Saturday night to hang out with everyone and then help with supervision. He had the rest of the staff go to bed before midnight so we could have the rest we needed to do what needs to be done the next morning and to drive back safely. He stayed up through most of the night, allowing the rest of the staff to sleep. He then left at some early hour of the morning to drive home and then get his sleep. Thank you Mr. White for looking out for all of us to make sure we all had a safe time.