



**CAMP JO-OTA**

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## **2020 Annual Membership Meeting**

### **Site Director Report**

**May 8, 2021**

The 2020 year started off strong with Macon UMC hosting a Valentines Dinner for a dozen couples, the Annual Membership meeting was hosted with approximately 30 in attendance, and the Annual Quilters Retreat with 46 in attendance. Every year the quilters host a fundraiser by purchasing items from their “white elephant” store. They raised over \$1300 to go toward camp needs. The first weekend in March, which was our last retreat for the season, was the Youth Rally. There were approximately 28 youth and adults in attendance for the one-night stay. Meghan Riegerix and Keely McCarty did a great job leading the youth in worship, games, small group time, and creating their own emoji to go with their feelings. Camper fees were set at \$50 per person with each camper expected to pay \$30 and the remaining balance would come from the Youth Rally Savings account from 2019. On Easter morning Keely and I met at Vespers to do a livestream of the sunrise. This was probably the first time ever not to host Easter Sunrise Service since the tradition started many years ago.

Despite the delayed decision to host camps in May and June we were able to reschedule 10 of the JMA camps in July and August. JMA had a total of 138 campers. Those campers broken down are 8 adult campers, 99 youth campers, 9 directors, and 22 counselors. The Family Camp scheduled for Labor Day weekend was cancelled due to lack of numbers. There were approximately 53 campers who received MT District scholarships and approximately 57 campers, directors, and counselors who received church scholarships. At the time of registration, we ask that our directors and counselors pay a membership rate of \$25 making a total of \$650 collected for 2020. We also received an additional \$105 in donations from several who registered online. A total of \$125 of Early Bird Discount was given to campers who registered before April 15. Each camper received a JMA t-shirt with the summer theme “Fix Your Eyes on Jesus Hebrews 12:2”. Most campers that attended were from Clarence, Columbia, Hannibal, Macon, Paris, and Salisbury just to name a few.

When it was decided to host camps in July a committee put together a Communicable Disease Plan for our summer camps to go along with ACA and CDC guidelines. We realized there was going to be a need to have SEVERAL thermometers to go along with the plan put in place and that they could be costly to purchase. Glori Siebert spread the word to the local UMW chapters and then the word spread to several chapters outside of the Mark Twain District and rest assured donations began to arrive. The following chapters who gave are:

Barker UMW \$50

Broadway UMW \$60

Blue Ridge \$100

Living Work UMW \$100

Elmo UMW \$100

Wentzville \$250

Brashear UMW \$30

Kidder UMW \$60

New Horizons UMW \$60

Other camps hosted in 2020 were Royal Rangers with 30 staff members, 43 for Junior Leadership Training Academy, and 81 for Pow Wow, and the Catholic Camp had a total of 117 throughout their week attend. In August Adair Co R-II brought students from their student council to participate in the challenge course and spend some time brainstorming ideas for the upcoming school year. In October Madison UMC brought youth for a one-night retreat, as well as Zion Lutheran from Macon, and the Royal Rangers came for a two-night stay. In October, JMA hosted a Fall-Tastic drive thru dinner. There were over 100 meals served in less than 40 minutes, and about \$2000 raised for the camp.

All facilities are in decent shape. Most everything held together well for the camping season with no major issues. Major projects taking place last summer include the painting of Oak Valley Cabin. Fred made repairs to the chimney and replaced rotten trim. There were several lower panels on the exterior that were chewed by rodents that were replaced. The entire cabin took over 15 gallons of paint. This needs to be done again soon to replenish the wood. Fred also did a lot of dirt work around the outside of Oak Valley trying to alleviate water run-off into the basement and flowing towards the foundation. The pool received a fresh coat of paint making it look almost new! The lake has served its purpose with many boaters and fisherman. The Amazon wish list has been updated for those who would like to make purchases of items and/or make a monetary donation for needed items. The Royal Rangers continue to make finishing touches to the shooting range shelter house and range. One of their individuals has a bucket truck and helped with cutting down two big trees: one on the soccer field and the other down by the barns. Another individual with the Royal Rangers works for an electric company. While here he replaced about 100 light bulbs and fixed several light fixtures. Also, the men installed a new outdoor light to shine on the soccer field. They replaced a light fixture on the north end of Barrow Hall as well. After discovering that we have a 9 square frame and setting it up in the shade by the basketball court this reduced the number of campers at the gaga ball pit this summer.

There always seems to be a need for AV equipment with the ever-changing technology. An AV equipment cabinet would be nice to have to store equipment and manage users. Equipment to show an outdoor movie or have outdoor worship on the field would be ideal for being able to continue the outdoor experience while here at camp. The addition of a swing fire pit area closer to the main camper area would be ideal for smaller groups and for those unable to make the hike down to the lake area. There is always a need of the upkeep of the trails, additional rock for roads leading to facilities, and mulch to be added to the trails and landscaping around the property. Please consider these projects as a mission that you, your family, or church can finance and participate in completing.

Below is an overview of our budget for 2020. As your looking at these numbers I'd like to mention, Sherwin Dent is very good about giving us reminders during our regular board meetings, that what JMA is about is not the money, it is about getting people to come to camp. It is most important to have our guest come to the camp and connect with Christ in this beautiful setting. If people will come to use the camp, the money will take care of itself.

In 2020 we received:

\$ 47,192 Donations from churches and individuals

\$39,600 Trust Fund income

\$12,753 Retreat and other camps income

\$25,270 JMA Camper fees

\$14,887 Grants

\$11,461 Misc. income

\$151,163 Total income

\$197,269 Total expenses

JMA had approximately 258 members for 2020, this is up from the previous two years. We had approximately 12 individual members give donations of \$1000 or more and there were 10 churches who gave \$1000 or more in 2020.

At the 2020 Annual Membership Meeting there were three board members elected. Eric Anderson and Dave Pulliam agreed to stay on another term and David Stuckey from LaPlata UMC and Yarrow UMC will be joining as a new board member. The annual dues were set at \$25. The dues set are for the calendar year in which they are paid, therefore any dues paid after January 1, 2021 will be applied to the year 2021.

The 2021 camp registration is open! Please be spreading the word to your area youth and to your youth leaders at local churches. JMA camps are open to all denominations and we can setup scholarship codes for all churches who wish to support their youth attending camps at JMA. We are always looking for new leaders to help with our current camps but also for leaders who would like to host new camps. Some very excellent ideas were shared at our last board meeting but to be successful we need leadership.