



# BABBLER



*The Official Newspaper of Camp Ma-He-Tu*

*Spring Edition*

*2009*

Back in the day, when I was a camper, I hardly ever got to talk to my camp friends during the year. Phone calls were expensive (at least 25 cents, which was way more than my weekly allowance.) We didn't have e mail or the internet, and the trip to a friend's house by horse and buggy would have taken forever!

But what we did have was a REUNION. Once a year, in the middle of the winter, I would beg my parents to take me to a special church in New York City. I would get all dressed up for the occasion. When I got to the church there would be all these strange girls there, also all dressed up. It always took me a little while to recognize that the girl in her "Sunday Best" with her hair all done up was the same kid I slept next to for two weeks who never took a shower. But once we saw through the disguises it was like we had never left each other. Lots of hugs and lots of laughs later, we sadly went our own way back home, aching for the summer to get started.

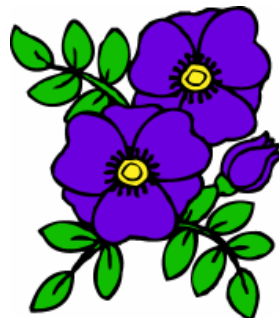
Somewhere along the way, Ma-He-Tu campers and staff stopped gathering in the winter. Maybe it was because you guys can talk to each other on your cell phones, text each other from biology class, keep in touch with My Space or Face Book, or track each other's every move by twittering. But I have to tell you that all those virtual connections are just not the same as a real live hug from a real live friend.

So that's why we're doing it again! Come to Baldwin on April 18. It's not that far for just about any one of you to get there. And the Bethlehem Church is one of the few places on Long Island that's really easy to find. From 2:00 to 4:00 we'll be looking at great pictures from last summer, making S'Mores, singing camp songs, sharing a laugh, and getting lots and lots of hugs! Can you think of a better way to spend a Saturday afternoon? I sure can't!

Everyone is welcome. If you have a friend who's been thinking about coming to camp, bring her along! It's a great way for her to get to meet some people, get an idea of why we love each other so much, and of course to learn the "We Hate Bugs" song.

I can't wait to see you all there!

*Igoe*



# Meet up with Ma-He-Tu

Date: April 18, 2009

Time: 2 pm – 4 pm

Place: Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
1375 Grand Ave  
Baldwin, NY 11510

Click her for a [Map to Church](#)

Come one, Come all!

Current Campers, future Campers, Alumni,

and all Friends of Ma-He-Tu

Come and “Meet up” with your camp friends from Ma-He-Tu. Spend the afternoon reminiscing about the wonderful summers spent Deep in the Woods. Bring along some new friends so they can become part of the Ma-He-Tu family! Refreshments will be served. (Yes, that does mean s’mores!)

\*Special drawing – Win 50% off the cost of one encampment

\*\*Must be already registered to win

\*\*Registration will be available at the reunion

\*\*Must be present to win

[Please RSVP by clicking here](#)



# What's New at Ma-He-Tu for 2009?



## How about a Bouldering Wall?

I'm not sure if ours will be exactly like this one, but this picture gives you the idea of what our latest addition to the ropes course will be like. From what I hear, they are tons of fun! I know that TAYLOR and crew will be coming up with lots of ways for you all to play on it and have a great time!!!

## Get a Jump Start on the Summer!

**You don't have to wait until school is out to start having fun at camp!**

Every year groups of energetic people gather at Ma-He-Tu to roll up their sleeves and put the camp in shape. We sweep, we scrub, we rake, we hammer, we get dirty, we swim, and **we have fun**. No skills are required. On the job training is cheerfully provided.

**May 2** – a day of early spring cleaning

**May 23 - 24** - along with on the job training, a great dinner is provided when the work is done. Come and help us and then stay overnight at camp with your family.



If you and your family would like to join us please give Karen Shafonda a call at 631-728-6682 or send her an e-mail at [kshafonda@mahetu.org](mailto:kshafonda@mahetu.org).

## And don't forget to come to our Open Houses:

This is the best time to introduce Ma-He-Tu to a friend. Bring a picnic and enjoy a beautiful spring afternoon at Ma-He-Tu!

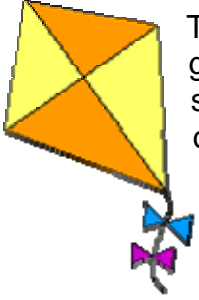
Open houses are from noon to 3:00 p.m. on:

Sunday, May 24

Sunday, May 31

Saturday, June 6

## Look Who's Coming Back!



The summer of 2009 is just around the corner and we've been hard at work getting your favorite counselors lined up to make this summer your favorite one so far! Now, we haven't heard from everyone yet, but here's what we know as of right now:

**Taylor** is going to be working hard and playing harder, helping you out in archery, the ropes course, and of course with creative fishing.

**Arniqua** will be back making sure your athletic skills are at their peak, and she'll also be in charge of those awesome CITs.

**Caitlin Ialenti, Alyssa Fine, and Lindsey Randall** will be down at the waterfront making sure you are all safe and happy. Caitlin is going to be in charge of the small craft.



**Erica Meditz** will be back to help us out for at least part of the summer.

**Kaitlynn Stekete, Carly Crane, Sarah Cipoli, Jessica Steinert, Ariana Medina and Juliana Meyer** have all signed on for a summer as general counselors.



**Sarah Wroot** will be coming back from across the Atlantic for another summer at Ma-He-Tu!

Some of you may remember **Filomena LaForte** from quit a few years ago. She's coming back after missing us for several summers.



**Angela Steinert** will be back in the kitchen making sure we all have great food!

Rounding out the staff we have a great group of CITs: **Katie Binder, Sara Bishop, Kyla Dayer, Brianna Dayer, Meaghan Emery, Kayla Juvet, Sara Mazzaccaro, Olivia Meyer, Ify Okoh, Mia Renna, Kathryn Russo, Akasha Solis, and Ashton Vogelsang.**

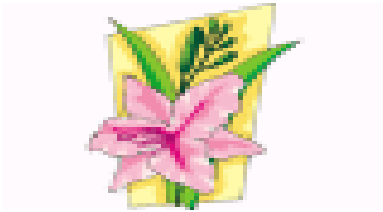


And, of course you know that Bailey and Gabe will be back, chasing fish and chipmunks, and getting lots of love from all you guys.

As for me, I check the ""countdown to camp on the home page of our website, [www.mahetu.org](http://www.mahetu.org), every day to find out how many days before I get to be back at camp!

It's still early and we haven't heard from all of last year's staff yet. So if **YOUR** favorite staff member is not on the list, give her a poke and remind her that for the summer of 2009, **NO PLACE IS GOING TO BE AS MUCH FUN AS OUR PLACE!**





# Orchids and Onions



Orchids to snow days...

Onions to having to make them up in June!

Onions to everyday until camp starts!

Orchids to anyone who comes to help us clean up on May 2 or May 23 -24.

Orchids to everyone who brings a friend to camp this summer. Don't forget about our \$50 recruiter's discount. You'll get \$50 off your tuition for every new camper you bring to camp.

Orchids to everyone who has registered

Onions to everyone who hasn't (trade your onion for an orchid today - register online or by using the form in this Babblar.

Orchids to everyone who signs up for "Women in the Woods"

Orchids to all the staff members who are coming back this summer.



**Q. What happens if you eat yeast and shoe polish?**

**A. Every morning you'll rise and shine!**



## Ma-He-Tu Song Trivia:

Can you name these Ma-He-Tu songs? The letters are the first letter of each of the words in the first line of the song. For example, RRRYB, would be Row, Row Row Your Boat – of course!

1. TLDTIOK
2. TLSTNTGBAFF
3. TIACAIS
4. DLODLODRM
5. ISYOHGGTRH
6. STIOLWAHPWAHS
7. DBYHOTSL
8. WIRATCAIRATB
9. TOWASHNLPPPP
10. TWTIABATLOSRORO
11. NNAWIWIMB
12. SITR, ISINR



(Answers can be found in the song books at camp- come this summer and check it out!)

**Q. What season is it when you are on a trampoline?**

**A. SPRING - TIME!**



To the Families of our Campers:

We are looking forward to sharing in your daughter's summer. As always, we have spent the winter seeking out new ideas through Camping Conferences, American Camping Association Publications, and some of our own brainstorming. We have tons of new material for this summer to keep the program fresh, exciting, and safe. Our goal is to provide a balance between tradition and innovation that will keep your daughter enthusiastic about the experience we have to offer.

One of the biggest challenges we face each year is trying to plan a summer for an unknown quantity of campers. It's like trying to have a party without having any idea how many guests to expect. Since our "party" lasts seven weeks, you might imagine just how difficult it is to put it all together without knowing how many "guests" to count on.

The response to the program has been wonderful. Your positive feedback has been greatly appreciated, and we want to thank all of you who have already registered for this summer. But there are still some of you out there who we haven't heard from. We know that most of you are including Ma-He-Tu in your summer plans, but haven't gotten around to registering just yet. If you could please take a few minutes and register your daughter for this summer, you will help us make our planning process a complete success.

**Save a stamp! Register online at [www.mahetu.org](http://www.mahetu.org)  
Remember - you can pay for camp on your VISA or MasterCard whether you register online or use the form below:**

If you do your part and let us know your daughter is coming, we'll do ours and make sure there's a wonderful summer adventure waiting for her.

In these difficult economic times, it is our goal to make sure that no Ma-He-Tu camper sits out a summer because of financial concerns. If you need help or can be of help, please contact Marion Schumacher at 631-351-1657

**2009 Camp Ma-He-Tu Registration Form**

Please return to: Mrs. Marion Schumacher, Registrar, 6 Soundview Drive North, Huntington, NY 11743.

Name (Last, First) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

New Camper? yes no E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Referred By? \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Please check encampment(s) desired:

- First Encampment (Women in the Woods) July 4 - 8
- Second Encampment: July 12 – July 25
- Third Encampment: July 26 – August 8
- Fourth Encampment: August 9 – August 22

Fees: \$850 for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> encampment.  
 Registration fee of \$200 per encampment must accompany registration form.  
 Please make check or money order payable to  
**Lutheran Girls Camp Association**  
**OR Pay by Credit Card!**  
**Check our website for early bird discounts and recruiter's rebates**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian

Visa  
 MasterCard # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# Summer -2009

Cannon balls off the diving board, s'mores around the campfire, silly songs, and happy days hanging with your friends - it seems like it's all a world away when you're worrying about English essays, science projects, and math tests. But before you know it we'll all be packing our grubby jeans and comfy sweats and heading back to camp for some well deserved days of carefree fun! We're cooking up lots of things for the summer of 2009. Check the dates and events below. Then pick your favorite time to be at camp and send us your registration form or register on line at [www.mahetu.org](http://www.mahetu.org) to hold your spot. Can't wait to see you!



## Women-in-the-Woods

### July 4 - July 8

This is a very special time at camp. Everyone, no matter how old they really are, gets to be a kid. Share camp with your mom, grandmother, aunt, or neighbor. Instead of following a schedule, like we do during the rest of the summer, everything is optional. It's fun to be at camp when things are a bit more flexible. It's also a perfect time to introduce Ma-He-Tu to some friends. Bring them for a day or two or more, so they can see for themselves exactly what it is that you get so excited about.

## JUST FOR GIRLS - JUST FOR FUN!

Our three two-week sessions are packed with fun. We're busy all day long swimming, playing on the ropes course, paddling kayaks, doing arts and crafts, playing all kinds of sports and games, and doing just about everything else our imaginations can dream up. But each session has its own special highlight. Can't decide which event will be the best? Don't miss the fun - come for two or three encampments (you know you want to!)

July 12 - July 25	July 26 - August 8	August 9 - August 22
<p>X-TREME EVERYTHING That's what second encampment is all about. Doing what you like to do, and do it bigger and better than ever before.</p>  <p>Then get ready for another Merry Christmas! The only thing that's as wonderful as being home for the holidays is being at camp and getting to celebrate all over again!</p>	<p>Whether you're a cheering or paddling, there's never a dull moment during the regatta encampment. Come join all the other camps in Harriman Park for a day of racing canoes and showing off our camp spirit. Help us repeat our award winning performance of 2008!</p> 	<p>Are you theatrical or more of a "behind the scenes" kind of person? Either way you'll have the best time ever working on the annual Ma-He-Tu Musical. Last summer the Ma-He-Tu players performed a fantastic version of "The Jungle Book." ...And as an extra bonus - this is the encampment we celebrate Halloween. Invent your own costume, join our Halloween Party.</p> 