

High Braes Refuge

Highlights

To the Glory of God

November 2009

Infuzion/Day Camp Update

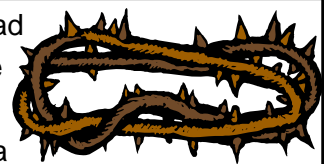
On October 9-11 the Braes took its ministry to local teens in a different direction by hosting an Infuzion weekend for junior and senior high students. The team from Infuzion did a great job and we look forward to continuing that relationship in the future.

Infuzion is a ministry that partners with churches and organizations that work with youth to share the gospel of Jesus Christ and help those teens grow in their relationships with Christ. They came prepared to handle praise and worship, recreation and Bible teaching. The comments from campers and parents have all been very positive. We have seen how God worked through that weekend and lives were changed. There were truly many VICTORIES.

The weekend was led by Jay Trainer, the director of Infuzion. Jay provided most of the Bible teaching and was direct with the students. It was straight talk about the real issues teens face today. He didn't blur any lines and the teens and staff we spoke to appreciated that.

It was difficult to cancel the summer teen camping program but the ministry provided by Infuzion will allow us to continue local teen ministry in a way that is

within our means. We had the help needed, and the costs were 100% covered. We would like to send a special thank you to those of you who supported the summer camp ministry and gave to help make the Infuzion weekend come together.



We want to continue ministry to local children and teens as we go into 2010 and preparations have already begun. We have been talking to two different churches about being involved in the day camp program. Our hopes are to be able to do two day camps in 2010 as we

did this past summer. Dates will be announced in our next newsletter.

Infuzion weekends for next year have already been planned. We will be doing two weekends, one for junior high grades 6-8 and senior high grades 9-12. The dates will be as follows:

Junior High: July 23-25

Senior High: July 30– August 1

Mark those dates on your calendar.

Thank you for your prayers and support. Please continue to pray as we go into next year.

VICTORY
INFUZION



From the Director

I love to share the heart of God and most often I will use this space in the newsletter to provide a little spiritual encouragement. However, at times I like to talk about what's going on in the ministry.

This has been a challenging year for the Braes. The need to cancel the teen camping program tops the list of difficulties we had to face. In the midst of all of that we saw a number of small disasters that consumed resources of time and money. Facing challenges can sometimes give you a perspective you may not have seen otherwise or remind you of things that have begun to slip away. There are times when God will bring us to the edge to help make things more clear. Challenges can also be a great test of who you are and where you are willing to stand.

I'm sure when 2009 is over I will describe it as a "defining year" for this ministry. As the world changes, we as individual believers, churches and Christian ministries are facing the need to define who we are and what God has clearly placed us here to do.

So who are we as a ministry? What are we here for? What is our overall purpose within the specific ministry He has given us? Simply put, **we are here to bring glory the God.** On the bottom of our logo you will see the phrase, "To the glory of God." That phrase has been a part of the Braes since its beginning and it has been a reminder more than once of what we are here to do. Jesus said in John 17:1, *"Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You."* NKJV. At the start of this significant prayer Jesus makes it clear...His ultimate purpose is Gods glory.

I had a pastor remind me this summer that as ministries we can sometimes get so caught up in the "process" we forget what we are here for. We can get trapped in completing tasks, moving programs along, meeting expectations of people involved...etc. But that kind of thinking can leave us nearsighted about the ministry as a whole. God wants us to be proac-

tive, but it's important to remember that the process is secondary to the purpose.

As a leader, I finally had to face the reality that "the process" has left us in a place where we were trying to do more than we had the ability to do. Instead of giving full effort where we needed to we were giving partial effort everywhere. We can't bring God the glory if we are stretching ourselves and our resources beyond what He has provided. We had to get realistic about the tremendous load we were under.

These challenges have given us a "whole ministry" view. We have seen Gods provision in miraculous ways. So when we don't see it in a particular area, we have to wonder. Someone recently reminded me that sometimes God speaks as loudly in things that don't happen, as in the things that do happen.

God has given us a mission. We believe, as a ministry, that we are here to "host" groups and programs as a means of seeing the gospel of Jesus Christ moved forward in the lives of the people who come. It is our desire to see the Braes used by individuals and groups who desire to see others follow Christ and grow in that relationship. That is our mission and we need to make sure we are doing that to Gods honor and glory.

We believe we are better able to do that by hosting church and ministry retreats as well as by hosting teams that come to minister to local children through our day camp program and to our local teens through Infuzion. With that emphasis in mind we have been able to do a better job and we have seen the rewards of that. Though there have been changes, some major changes, we feel the ministry is more solid and better equipped to move into the future than it was before. Please keep praying for this ministry, its needs, and that we would have a clear view of His glory.



Jeff Andrews
Director of the Braes



High Braes Refuge, Inc.
196 Waterbury Road
Redfield, NY 13437

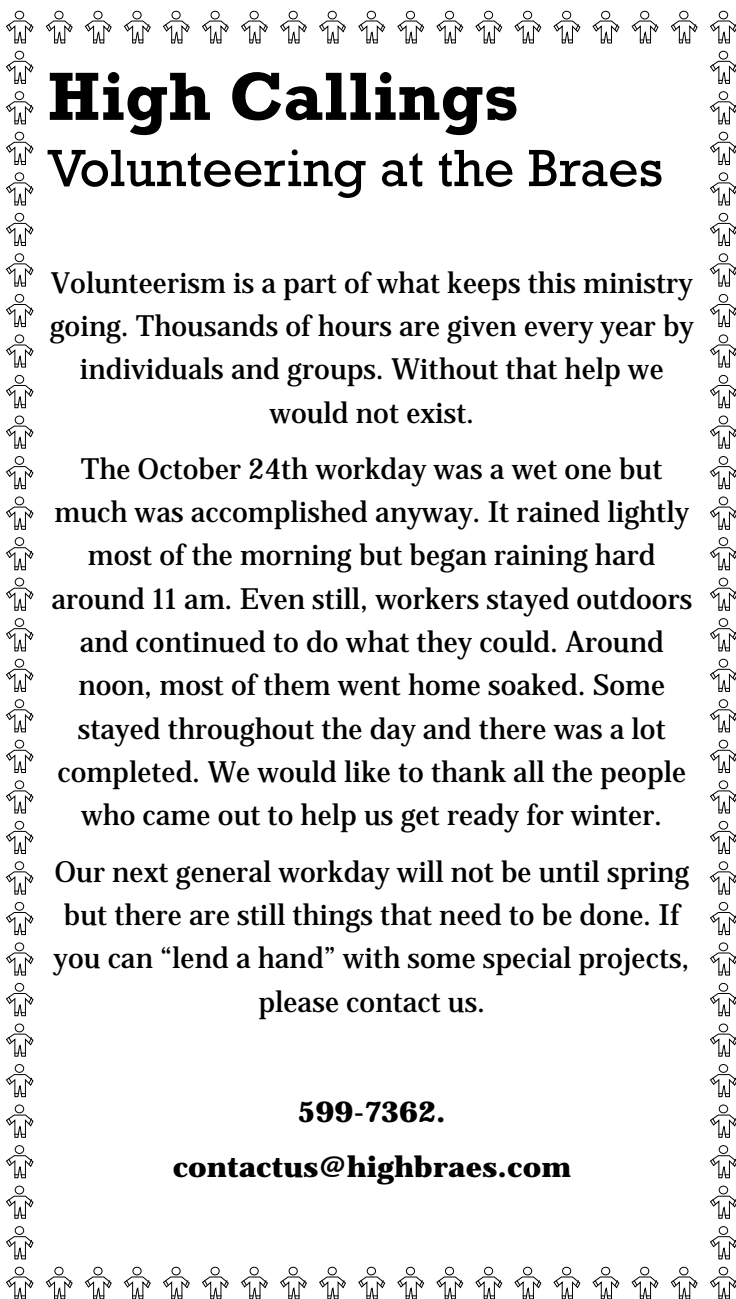
Phone: (315) 599-7362
Email: contactus@highbraes.com
www.highbraes.org

I would like to help support High Braes Refuge.

Please apply my monthly financial gift of \$ _____ ; or my one time gift of \$ _____ toward the following:

General Fund \$ _____ Summer Camp/Infuzion \$ _____ Improvement Fund \$ _____

Specific improvement Project: _____ \$ _____



High Callings

Volunteering at the Braes

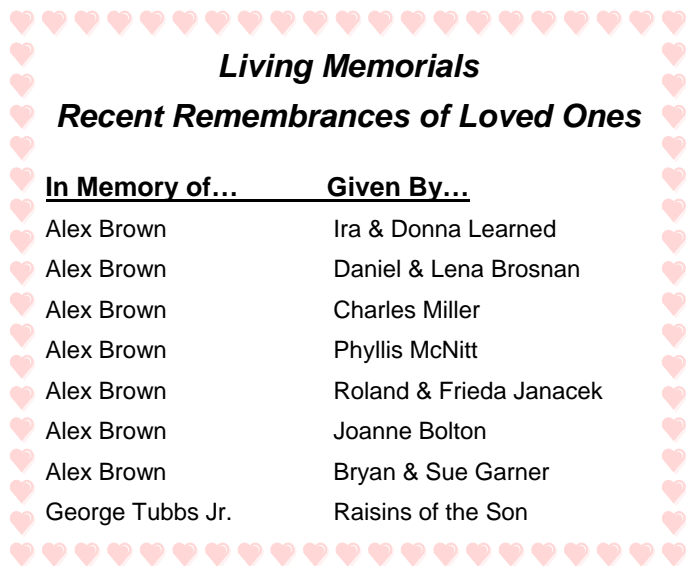
Volunteerism is a part of what keeps this ministry going. Thousands of hours are given every year by individuals and groups. Without that help we would not exist.

The October 24th workday was a wet one but much was accomplished anyway. It rained lightly most of the morning but began raining hard around 11 am. Even still, workers stayed outdoors and continued to do what they could. Around noon, most of them went home soaked. Some stayed throughout the day and there was a lot completed. We would like to thank all the people who came out to help us get ready for winter.

Our next general workday will not be until spring but there are still things that need to be done. If you can "lend a hand" with some special projects, please contact us.

599-7362.

contactus@highbraes.com



Living Memorials

Recent Remembrances of Loved Ones

In Memory of...	Given By...
Alex Brown	Ira & Donna Learned
Alex Brown	Daniel & Lena Brosnan
Alex Brown	Charles Miller
Alex Brown	Phyllis McNitt
Alex Brown	Roland & Frieda Janacek
Alex Brown	Joanne Bolton
Alex Brown	Bryan & Sue Garner
George Tubbs Jr.	Raisins of the Son

Please Pray for the Braes

Retreats: We thank God for a great year of retreat ministry for 2009. We have seen a substantial increase over 2008. We are also grateful for another busy winter schedule ahead. Every weekend is full from January 8th-March 22nd and the calendar for Spring of 2010 is beginning to fill in. Please keep praying that we would have every opportunity possible to minister.

Day Camp: Pray for teams to come forward to help us with the day camp programs.

Infuzion: Pray for the teens that were here for Infuzion that they would be able to take what they have learned to the world around them. Also, pray for the planning of 2010.





High Braes Refuge, Inc.

196 Waterbury Road

Redfield, NY 13437

To The Glory of God

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
Paid
Redfield, NY 13437
Permit No. 10

Phone: 315-599-7362

Fax: 315-599-4005

Email: contactus@highbraes.com

www.highbraes.org

Return Service Requested

Retreat Ministry

The typical retreat here at the Braes begins on a Friday, late afternoon or evening, and goes through Sunday after lunch. A group might only be here for a total of 35-40 hours in all, but those can be very significant hours in the lives of those that come.

If you have never been on a retreat like the ones we host here, you might not be able to appreciate the value of pulling a group of people together in one place for an extended period of time. Those hours can become very important, even life changing. My hopes are to use this article to help you to better understand the value these people find when they come the Braes.

For this issue, I've decided to let them do the talking. We ask groups to fill out an evaluation, if they would like, to let us know how their time here went. The following are comments randomly taken from those evaluations.

"Overall, the quiet and peaceful setting was conducive to experiencing the presence of God. That's what we went there for. We were not disappointed! We do plan to return in the future."

May 2009

"Once again the Lord accomplished many things in the lives of young people. We have seen significant spiritual steps taken because of this retreat. The older teens also stepped forward and challenged the younger teens

in their walk with the Lord. We praise God for the staff at High Braes and the way the Lord has used this ministry in our students lives."

February 2009

"Great get away from the busy world and enables all to focus on the Lord and His glorious creation. You bless all who come. Thank you!"

April 2009

You can feel the Spirit of the Lord here in this woods, it makes you relax and think how awesome God is and how he helps us. Your retreat is a wonderful outreach for groups and our family is thankful for being a part of it.

August 2009

At the end of each weekend I make a point to ask how things went. It's good to hear from leaders while the retreat is fresh in their minds. We receive a lot of great comments about the staff and the facility, and we are glad people are enjoying themselves and feeling blessed. But the comments that mean the most to me are the ones about what God has done in the lives of individuals and churches during their stay at the Braes.

If you are a supporter of the Braes, whether that is financial or through volunteerism, you can rest assured that God is using this place.