



# The BUCKING Board

NEWS AND UPDATES FROM SILVER BIRCH RANCH



## BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

- Dave Wager

Ten years ago we were delighted to hear our computers say “You’ve got mail.” Today we are delighted to get mail from our mailbox and read something that was hand generated and from the heart.

For as much as we have progressed, we do not seem to be better off in the areas that are most important, and those important things have not changed. Relationships still rule as the most important human experience--relationships with God and with each other.

Satan seems to have always had a way to get into what is important with what is good, or progressive, or innovative, and as often as fish seem to follow the bait, we follow what is new, hoping to improve things that were proven, yet “old.”

Silver Birch Ranch continues to emphasize relationship-building through inter-generational shared experiences. We still believe that children should escape their “normal,” experience the great outdoors, and forge relationships with peers and other significant adults through a plethora of activities.

Relationships are not formed through the busyness of everyday lives., They are formed as people pause and intentionally spend purposeful time together. Learning how to ride a horse, fishing for the first time, learning to water-ski, and rafting down a rapid river all provide meaningful experiences that seed lifelong relationships.

If we as a culture are going to survive, we need to emphasize real relationships over virtual ones. We need to focus on simple activities that build relationships, and we need to make these activities within reach of all, regardless of the circumstances of life.

We thank those who have carried the burden of the many financial challenges we face throughout all these years, for you have allowed God to use you to show His faithfulness. We also invite those who are not yet involved to join us in that there are many challenges that lie ahead that are just waiting for God’s provision. We look forward to what God will do as we wrap up 2018 and 2019 begins to unfold. These are exciting days!

## NEW NBI DORM!

*The female students have been living in the new dorm for just under a month. The building itself is absolutely beautiful and has already become our home. It has hosted countless conversations, many homework sessions, and a handful of worship nights. The layout of the common area cultivates an environment for fellowship. Also, something that has rarely happened in the past is that all of the female students live in the same building. In previous years, students have been split up into multiple buildings. We are loving the fact that all of us live together!*



## RETREATS AT THE WOLF RIVER REFUGE

- Steve Tice

God has been using our facilities to grow families and individuals. Shared here are two short testimonies of how and when God has worked. We love to serve families to help them spend time together. The first note was written by a dad who intentionally planned how to help his adolescent children know their identity in Christ.

"Recently my wife and I came across a resource for our adolescent children from Family Life Ministries called Passport to Identity. In the past, we had attended a Blended Family Retreat at the Wolf River Refuge, so we knew that the facility would be a really good fit to spend time helping our children realize their identity in Christ. For us, the Wolf River Refuge has been the perfect setting to immerse ourselves in programs to help our marriage and family without the distractions of our busy lives."

The second note is from a fisherman who



came to our Fly Fishing Men's Retreat in August, hosted by Dave Wager. Not only was some good fishing enjoyed, but Dave spent time helping men walk more closely with Christ. We started the group out on dry ground for practice, and then it was

off to catch small mouth bass on the adjacent Wolf River. We caught some nice ones!

"The Fly Fishing Men's Retreat gave me an opportunity to add to my "repertoire" of outdoorsman/fishing skills, but even more, it provided the addition of new friends, comradery, serenity, and growth spiritually. The accommodations and food were spectacular. I am better for having attended this

retreat. God is moving at the Wolf River Refuge, in my humble opinion. Thank you, Wolf River Refuge!"

We invite you to consider how your family, friends, or small group can realize what a unique and wonderful facility the Wolf River Refuge is to help you grow in Christ!

## Top 10 List

1. S Cabins Remodel - \$3,500
2. B Cabins Remodel - \$3,500
3. Hockey Ice Skates - New or Used Condition
4. Carbon Monoxide Detectors - \$1,500 (\$35 each)
5. Tire Changing Machine - \$2,500
6. Tire Balancing Machine - \$1,000
7. Ten Portable Benches - \$600 each
8. Two Gas Furnaces - WRR - \$1,000 each
9. Two 15 Passenger Vans - \$50,000 (25,00 each)
10. Barn Facelift - \$2,000

*If you can help with one of these items, please contact us at 715-484-2742. Silver Birch Ranch is a 501(c)(3) organization. All gifts are tax-deductible and are appreciated. If you are interested in finding out about other ways to support the ministry of Silver Birch Ranch, visit our website.*

## ANOTHER SUMMER IN THE BOOKS!

- Jason Kemper

The castle is down, the escape rooms have been dismantled, and the new NBI students are moved into the new dorm and settled into their classes for the semester. Leaves are beginning to display the beautiful colors of fall. All of these changes mark the close of another amazing summer season at Silver Birch Ranch. As we reflect on summer 2018 The Kingdom, we are once again thankful and drawn to God's faithfulness. We were able to see over 400 students commit their lives to Jesus, and many more refocus their lives on Him as well. I want to thank you for your role in this. Whether you were a camper, volunteer, parent, friend, prayer warrior, or financial supporter, God has used each of you to make Christ known this summer. What's even more exciting is that the Story doesn't end there. As we transition into our fall and winter retreats, we know that God is going to continue to do some amazing things in the lives of so many people.

With another summer behind us, we can't help but shift our minds with excitement and anticipation as we begin to plan and prepare for Summer 2019 Overboard. It's time brush off your accents and start practicing your "Yarrs" and your "Ahoy Mateys" as we launch camp into the pirate world of the seven seas. Check out the dates and mark your calendars as you plan to join us for one of our biggest and best summers yet.

### 2019 Dates

<b>Family Camp #1</b>	June 1-7, 2019
<b>Junior/Middler Camp #1</b>	June 8-14, 2019
<b>TRAX</b>	June 8-14, 2019
<b>Riding Adventure Camp #1</b>	June 8-14, 2019
<b>High School Camp</b>	June 15-21, 2019
<b>CCC High School Camp*</b>	June 22-28, 2019
<b>The Chapel High School Camp*</b>	June 28-July 3, 2019
<b>Family Camp #2</b>	July 3-8, 2019
<b>CCC Middle School Camp*</b>	July 8-13, 2019
<b>Junior High Camp</b>	July 13-19, 2019
<b>The Chapel Jr. High Camp*</b>	July 19-24, 2019
<b>StuCo High School Camp*</b>	July 25-29, 2019
<b>StuCo Middle School Camp*</b>	July 30-Aug 3, 2019
<b>Junior/Middler Camp #2</b>	August 3-9, 2019
<b>Riding Adventure Camp #2</b>	August 3-9, 2019
<b>Family Camp #3</b>	August 11-15, 2019

## INTRODUCING THE NBI CLASS OF '19!

- Steve Sanford

This year's Nicolet Bible Institute class is primarily from Wisconsin, with additions from Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri, Iowa, and Indiana. Six of the students have siblings who are NBI Alumni. Our students have spent the first weeks orienting to each other and life here at NBI. We praise God for giving us the opportunity to invest in their lives!

Classes this fall semester include Old Testament Survey, Missions and Evangelism, Christian Theology, Church History, and the start of the Personal Development Seminar. In addition to the academics, the students will be involved with the on-going ministry of Silver Birch Ranch and in the local community, giving them ample opportunity to put legs to their learning.

The sum total of all of these experiences and opportunities will mold and shape these young people in incredible ways as they live out their calling within the Kingdom of God. Please join us in praying for them.

Maybe you or someone you know would benefit from a year at Nicolet Bible Institute. Here's the essential information.

Facts about NBI:

- One-year, college level program
- Qualified and caring instructors who hold earned master's and doctoral degrees
- Foundational Bible Courses – to help you own your faith
- Find your calling using a variety of inventories including Gallup's StrengthsFinder.

Visit our website at [www.nicoletbibleinstitute.org](http://www.nicoletbibleinstitute.org) or contact Rich Hess, Dean of Students, at 715.484.2322 ext. 226 if you are interested in more information. Apply early. Space is limited. We are actively accepting students for the fall of 2019!

Finally, don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram if you are interested in relevant information about NBI, and in seeing highlights of the student year.



## JOINT VENTURE WITH Q90 RADIO

- Mike Jewell

We are pleased to announce that Q90 Christian Radio, located in DePere, Wisconsin, and Relate365, (the online ministry of Silver Birch Ranch) are joining forces to deliver digital content through the Relate365 website and the online radio station called "The Christian Truth Radio Network."

Q90 and Relate365 have the same mission "To Know Christ and To Make Him Known," so it is a very natural fit to bring the two organizations together to reach more people with the Truth only found in Christ.

Q90 is the second most listened to radio station in the Green Bay area. Its "Stand Up for the Truth" daily radio programs are downloaded from all over the world! In the near future, these programs will be available at the Relate365 website.

We will continue to update you on more changes as they happen. In the meantime, please check out all the teachings found on their websites: [Relate365.com](http://Relate365.com) and [Q90fm.com](http://Q90fm.com). Your prayers are appreciated as we move forward with this new venture.

## Five Fun Facts!

1. We have an internship program that lasts a year, in which there are currently six interns.
2. Camp has two golf courses, a 9-hole frisbee golf and an 18-hole disc golf course.
3. The Lodge used to be a tavern before Rich Wager bought the property in 1967.
4. There were 2,346 student campers here this summer!
5. The current NBI Class has 23 students; 14 girls and 9 guys.

1. What is the name of the location where we serve our Buckboard Breakfast?
2. How many verses are on the Romans Road?
3. Where is the room that is named "Birch" found?
4. On what road is camp located?
5. What were the names of the two mega-teams from this summer?

## Trivia!

(1) Split Oak (2) Six 3) The Upper Lodge  
(4) Sawyer Lake Road (5) Knights and Royals

## TONS OF FUN

- Poem by a Junior-Middler #2 Camper

I have a huge smile on my face  
While I tube on the lake.  
After I eat at the table  
I ride at the stable.  
Before I go to the zipline,  
I wait in the Canteen line.  
I like to go on lots of walks,  
And I never want to stop.  
I need to wake up in the morning very early.  
I do it very poorly.  
Knights and Royals play many games.  
Won't it be awesome when Knights win the fame?  
Between all of the games, we get to know God,  
And knowing that Jesus died for our sin  
Is the real win.  
It's been tons of fun getting to know everyone.

Thank you again to every camper who made this summer another summer to remember!



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Follow Us On:



• **Men's Fall Retreat**  
October 5-7, 2018

• **Father-Daughter Retreat**  
October 26-28, 2018

• **Scrapbooking Retreat**  
November 9-11, 2018

• **Quilters' Retreat**  
November 16-18, 2018

• **Hunters' Retreat**  
November 16-19, 2018

• **Winter Family Camp**  
Dec. 27, 2018 - Jan. 2, 2019

Scan QR code with your smart phone to learn more about our events and retreats!



## SBR INSIDER - BEHIND THE SCENES

- Jason Kemper

At the close of our 50th Summer in 2017, a couple of us brainstormed some ideas of how to keep those who love and partner with SBR the ability to "keep in touch" with what happens here on a regular basis. In a culture that has an infatuation with media, we thought we would try to bring camp to you in a very visual way. With that mindset, we launched our very first episode of SBR Insider on our YouTube channel. The goal was to show the ins and outs of what happens here at camp, giving the behind-the-scenes perspective of how everything comes together for campers' arrival. Our very first episode highlighted the old and the new – saying goodbye to Big John and the construction of what is now our new Nicolet Bible Institute Dorm.

Now, one year later, after watching the dorm go up, a castle being built, a summer come and go – SBR Insider is still going strong. Many of you have commented how you have appreciated the opportunity to see what happens here at camp from a different perspective. It has been a fun opportunity to highlight various areas of camp that people don't usually get to see. We hope to continue that over this coming year. Not only that, but we plan to even give away some free things along the way. In fact, watch for a big announcement for one of those giveaways soon. Make sure you head on over to Silver Birch Ranch's channel on YouTube and hit the Subscribe button so that you don't miss out! Let us know if there is an area of camp that intrigues you that you would like us to highlight on an episode. We look forward to seeing you next time on SBR Insider.