

WHAT IS YOUR NAME? HOW LONG HAVE YOU ATTENDED CENTRAL MANOR CAMP?



WHAT ARE THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT BROUGHT YOU HERE?

My name is Don Barley. I am 87 years old. I was born in March and was brought to camp the first year of my life. I have attended every year except for one year when I was in the Navy. We ultimately lived in Cabin 23, right next to the auditorium on the left front. You didn't take naps there!

COULD YOU SHARE A FEW MEMORIES OF EARLIER TIMES AT CAMP?

–When I was 6 or 7 years old, I accepted Christ here during a children's service in the Brunner Tabernacle. The "Wordless Book" was used.

–My father, Ira Barley, did the electrical work for Dr. MacDannald—rolling out the wire for each tent. The camp was his baby and he insisted things be done in certain ways. All the light bulbs needed to be removed each year and that was

my job.

–We were on the camp grounds preparing for camp on August 14, 1945 which was VJ Day, signaling the end of WWII. Somehow the word reached us and we rang the bell to celebrate. (Camp was August 18-25 that year.)

–For many years I provided tapes of the camp sermons. Early on there was a table set up for the equipment on the stage until I realized we could run the wires into my next door cottage!

–Other memories include:

–the coal oil lamps throughout the grounds, which needed to be cleaned. Coal oil was also sold to individuals for their heaters.

–the toilet seats that popped up! Kids were afraid they would get flushed down.

–I.A. in his white suit and straw hat

–oatmeal for breakfast

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT THE LEGACY AND LONGEVITY OF CAMP?

–The Spirit of the Lord has led the leadership. Camp is unique. Many camps are a shadow of what they once were. The current leadership is talented and has much expertise. They have a genuine interest in maintaining the mission of the camp. They have kept the Word of God as the central focus.

(This interview was conducted during camp, 2022, by Alice Wallace)

