



### In This Issue

- Register for 2009 Summit
- Join A Live Chat October 23
- Help Find Great Faculty
- Newest Board Members
- Go Green This Halloween
- Forward This To A Friend

### [Register Today for the 2009 Family Nature Summit](#)

So far, 176 people have registered! That is great news - early registrations help the board to better plan the offerings.

Pay your fees in full by December 31, 2008, to save \$25 per participant.

The Summit will run July 25 - 31, 2009.

[Click here for downloadable 2009 Registration Form.](#)

It's also important to book your accommodations. Visit [www.silverbay.org](http://www.silverbay.org) for descriptions and costs. Contact the YMCA directly at (518) 543-8833. Their hours are Monday to Saturday 8am-6pm EST. Typically you are taken to voicemail and they call back within 24 hours.

We are working on a way to sell you group photos for 2007 and 2008, as well as DVDs of the slideshows. We hope they will be available for purchase and shipment in time for holiday gift giving. Stay tuned for further details.

### Helpful Links

- [2009 Registration Form](#)
- [More About Family Nature Summits](#)

### And a quick inspirational thought...

"To me a lush carpet of pine needles or spongy grass is more welcome than the most luxurious Persian rug." -- Helen Keller

### Do You Have Questions About the Next Summit?

Let's try something new! Join a live chat via phone on Thursday, November 6, from 8:30-9:30pm EDT. Family Nature Summit board members and other volunteers will be on the line to hear your feedback and questions.



- Do you want to hear how preparations are going?
- Is there some specific information that would help you now?
- Do you want to volunteer but you are not sure how?

The call-in number is 308-344-6400. The code is 438161#. The call can accommodate the first 99 callers, so call in early to make sure you get a spot.

If you'd like to send questions in advance, email them to [info@familysummits.org](mailto:info@familysummits.org).

### Do You Know Interesting People Familiar with Nature in Northern New York? Faculty Proposals Due November 18

Did you know that there is a group of Summit volunteers who are working very hard to find the best faculty for our next Summit? The members of this year's Recruiting Committee are:

- Chris Blank
- Jean Florman
- Brete Griffin
- Dave Linthicum
- Mike Pelton
- Annie Tiberio Cameron
- Tamra Willis

They meet via phone every couple of weeks to discuss proposals they have received. They reach out to new and past faculty, ensuring we hear about the local area, and also retain the Summit culture of environmental education.

Another busy group is visiting Silver Bay on October 25-26. They are scouting out youth camping sites, faculty and other resources. The people making the trip are:

- board members John Kullman and Michael Shelby,
- Teen Director Joel Schroeder,
- Youth Co-Directors Steve Houser, Jr. and DeLene Hoffner,
- Hike Director Gary Pfisterer and
- recruiting committee member Annie Tiberio Cameron

If you know people who are knowledgeable about northern New York, or who could bring other faculty skills to the Summit, please contact [recruiting@familysummits.org](mailto:recruiting@familysummits.org) with your suggestions.

If you are a prospective faculty member, please send proposals by **November 18**.

### Meet Your New Board Members



Dave Linthicum and Jean Florman are the newest volunteer board members. Get to know more about them and all the wonderful folks who are so critical to the success of our event on the [Board of Directors page](#) of the website.



### Go Green This Halloween!

Hello again! This is Carla Brown, your Family Nature Summits e-newsletter and website volunteer. In this e-newsletter, I wanted to tell you how I combine my love of recycling with Halloween.

In 2002, I made an octopus costume by saving the K-cups from coffee machines and attaching them to four gray sweatshirts.

In 2003, I saved metal circles from frozen juice containers, attached them together and made an armadillo costume.

In 2006, the lady in our lunchroom saved six-pack rings, which I attached into a giant spider's web, stretched with tent poles.

Last year, I was "renewable energy." I made a wind turbine out of cardboard, solar panel from the armadillo costume and a geothermal system down my legs with tent poles.

If you are not into making costumes, how about handing out fair trade organic chocolates to your trick or treaters?

Let me know how it goes at [info@familysummits.org](mailto:info@familysummits.org)!



### Why Not Forward This Email to a Friend?

Life is so busy, and we never have enough time to spend with our family and friends. Many folks use Summits as a central location, where you can convene and catch up, with entertainment for people of all ages.

If you have family or friends who you'd like to vacation with, encourage them to [sign up for this e-newsletter](#). It's a great way for potential Summiteers to get acquainted with the event, it's free and we won't flood their email box. Forward this on to someone today!

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