

Golden Bell Campground and Conference Center

Dale and Judy Foster

Regardless of where you live in the U.S., it's likely you had a blistering hot summer! Kansas is no exception, so for the past seven summers we've escaped to the beautiful and cool Rocky Mountains of Colorado.

Golden Bell Campground and Conference Center is located about 30 miles up the mountain from Colorado Springs with a daily view of the back of "America's Mountain," Pikes Peak. In spite of the view, a hard-working group of volunteers still managed to get a lot of work done and have fun at the same time.

Don't ever think you don't have a skill that can be used! I (Judy) did laundry and what woman isn't skilled in that task! Dale has a CDL license and drove the camp bus for trips, which is a huge need and does require a special skill. He spent the rest of his time on fire mitigation – a job which will never be finished because there will always be dead trees and brush needing to be cleared. Other volunteers spruced up the grounds by painting picnic tables and structures with the signature camp colors and general maintenance. Several ladies helped in the gift shop or snack shack while some of the men (with special skills) operated heavy equipment or did mechanical maintenance work. There was a job for everybody and during down time we enjoyed sweet Christian fellowship over meals, potlucks, a Sonic shake run, etc. We even treated ourselves to an evening out with the whole group going out for dinner and attending a local community theater.

It was a good mix of work, fellowship and fun and I believe we would all agree the campground was in better shape when we left than when we arrived. What more could you ask for at summer's end?

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Gary and Marielos Kurtz

Our work at Golden Bell this summer included RV hosting, painting picnic tables, fences, cabins and trash can holders, installing WiFi in the RV Park, trimming trees, helping in the Snack Shack, and installing 50+ signs in the RV Park.

We loved the location and views this camp has to offer. Other highlights were the Sunday night chapel services, testimonies and stories about lives changed, our gatherings and potlucks, and working with Charlotte, the camp volunteer supervisor. We will definitely be going back!