

# PSWIRL- Summer Camp for Grownups!

Since the 1960's, the Pacific Southwest Institute of Religious Liberals has gathered at Camp de Benneville Pines each summer. Originally meeting at Camp Radford in the 1950's, it was PSWIRL that instigated the purchase of Camp Arataba from the Boy Scouts. Arataba was to become, in time and with a great deal of volunteer labor, our Unitarian Universalist Camp de Benneville Pines.

PSWIRL continues each summer to provide an interesting and stimulating program for adults. The cornerstone of their week is the Theme Speaker. Each morning, the specially invited speaker discusses his or her topic, with a talk-back session after.

The 2009 speaker will be Reverend Jim VanderWeele and the topic "The Secret of Working Together in Time of Crisis". As Minister at the [Community Church Unitarian Universalist in New Orleans](#), Rev. VanderWeele has spent the last several years aiding in the post-Hurricane Katrina rebuilding efforts. His experiences and insights will be part of the discussion during his PSWIRL talks.

After the morning Theme Talk, the rest of the day is available to enjoy the pool and hot tub, as well as a variety of workshops and activities. Workshops scheduled for this summer include Astronomy, Brain Education, Creative Writing, Dream Work, Guitar, Healing from Within, Journaling, Qi Gong, Spirituality & Tarot, Watercolor, Yoga and Massage. In addition, there will be Nature Walks in the early

morning, Folk Dancing each evening, video programs, a trip to the Big Bear Solar Observatory, an opportunity to canoe or kayak on Jenks Lake, the Talent Show and a Social Hour each evening.

There are two new programs added for this summer. The Landscape Photography module will be taught by Big Bear professional artist and photographer, Greg Zook. Each morning, there will be a photographic safari and each afternoon instruction in photographic techniques. The goal will be to learn how to take an excellent digital image.

The Kayaking & Hiking program will offer explorations of the beautiful areas surrounding the camp. The hikes and kayak trips will be moderate with the goal to explore, experience and enjoy the forest, streams and lakes.

Both programs will be in addition to the PSWIRL activities, allowing campers to participate in both programs. Because of the specialized nature of the modules, there will be an additional cost to participate.

The dates for PSWIRL this summer are Sunday, August 23 - Friday, August 28, 2009. More information about the 2009 camp as well as the modules can be found on the PSWIRL website at <http://pswirl.org>

