

## ***SONSHINE 2000 RECAP***

Sonshine 2000 was another year filled with lots of surprises, laughs, and lots of hard work. This recap is for you, the members of my crew, who make it all happen. I want to give credit where credit is due, but I couldn't possibly name each person that made the Sonshine 2000 Security Crew so good. So forgive me if you are not mentioned somewhere in this recap; it is not intentional.

Let me start with the crew as a whole. We received rave reviews from **Bob Poe** and **Linda Westburg** of the Sonshine staff for outstanding work done this past year. Linda in particular was glowing as to how well we handled some very difficult situations with great professionalism. Bob was especially pleased with how the HM stage was handled.

The interviewing team of **Jon Ness, Devon Ness, Greg Nordin, Charlie Bowen, Chuck Hinkley** and myself worked hard to recruit and interview the best people possible to be a part of the Sonshine crew. So it is no surprise that each year's crop of rookies always seems better than previous years. But the 2000 rookie class is different. We lost 10 veterans of more than 3 years experience from our 1999 staff, more than doubled our ER crew to 18, and added the HM stage. The rookie class of 2000 more than carried its weight according to **Charlie Bowen**. He told me of how the crew at HM was invaluable all weekend, keeping their cool during some pretty rough bands. He called this year's rookies the best ever by far, and since Charlie hands out praise like Scrooge might hand out \$100 bills, I know he was impressed. I got the impression that he might be thinking of naming his firstborn son after **Nathan Fetterley** or **Kyle Knudsen**.

For those of you who spent the weekend at Sonshine in a coma or under a rock, I present some of the Best and Worst of Sonshine 2000. Many thanks to those of you that contributed material for me to blow out of proportion.

- **Andy Frey** will be expected to bring a needle and thread next year after ripping a huge hole in not one, but TWO shirts on those metal ties at the front of Main Stage.
- The City of Willmar has requested that we take out digging permits for any future trenches **Jon Ness** digs with his boots for leverage at Main Stage. They were deep enough to be foxholes in case of attack.
- **Chuck Hinkley** and **Randy Quiggle** pulled off the steal of the weekend, even though Chuck claims it was only a matter of being in the right place at the right time. Friday night around 1:30 am, they were asked to find the sheriffs on site to help **Jeff Pappas, Aaron Livingston**, and I with a problem tent site. They found the two sherriffs at a campsite eagerly awaiting some steaks on the grill. Later that evening, I was told by those two same sherriffs that their steaks had been eaten by Chuck and Randy while they were away helping bust the kids, proving that timing is everything in the world of "food on the grill".
- **Scott Fuchs** either chose to beat the morning traffic to Sonshine, or was afraid of being fined by me for being late Thursday morning. In any case, Scott came to Sonshine on July 6, by mistake, a WEEK early, instead of July 13 like the rest of us.
- Who can forget the image of **Charlie Bowen** sitting on the table under the pop tent backstage slicing open the many blisters on his feet. Sounds like a rookie job?

- **Jeff Chudek** had to drive to Willmar Thurs eve, home Thurs night, and back to Willmar Fri evening. Coincidentally, police in Litchfield, Dassel, and Cokato are all on the lookout for a car that tore through their towns that looks exactly like Jeff's.
- **Wendy Biddle** will be offering dancing lessons to all who wish to "get funky" at Sonshine 2001. **Christa** and **Joy Biddle** were rumored to be in pain laughing at Wendy's sense of rhythm. Asked for comment, Wendy simply said "she chose NOT to move her hips in an inappropriate manner". Nothing wrong with that!
- Unwisely deciding to take on a late model pickup truck with large (unforgiving) mirrors, **Lance Lorenz** looked more like a pinball than a rollerblader when he went toe to bumper with it, and he has the knee scar to prove it.
- I understand **JJ Steimann** is a bit squeamish now when he reads the instructions for baking anything in the oven. Bake at 400 for 30-45 minutes? When I found JJ in the First Aid tent getting his sunburned legs attended to, it looked as if he tried baking them at 100 degrees for 10 hours without enough sunscreen. He should have listened to **Mike Weinand**, the man who does not sleep.
- **Myles Lembke** looked all but dead when I found him at the front of the HM stage Thurs night, sweat dripping from his face and his hair more than a little messed up. His radio was broken, and he could hardly stand, but all I got from him were the words, "Pax 217" and "HM good" and that sneaky smile of his.
- **Karl Lehrke** has volunteered for Biffy Patrol next year. I'll let him explain why!
- Helpful Hint for next year: If your Golf Cart is sputtering, popping, and going slower than you could crawl, CHECK the GAS TANK!! **Becky Bollin** was complaining that her Golf cart was dead, even making **Luke Hamilton** walk behind the cart to help it go faster as she made her way back to the Main Stage for repairs?!?!.
- Speaking of Golf Carts, if you do run out of fuel, do what **Jason Steiner** did. Promise a group of kids you'll BUY them each a Coke at the pop tent if they push you back to Main Stage.
- **Jeff Pappas** tried using his Days Inn keycard to get into a room at the Holiday Inn, eventually bringing it to the front desk to complain, proving ER does not mean IQ!
- 1998's battle cry of "Where the \$#\*#\$!?!# is **Jason Wilder**?" was replaced in 2000 with an all too often said, "What the \$#!?!%# did Wilder do NOW!?!?".
- **Christa Biddle** has volunteered to take **Jon Ness** place against the Main Stage wall in the evenings. She says she can handle it and you're not THAT tough, Jon! Sounds like your authority is being challenged Jon!
- **Sam Jerome** and I spoke with many wonderful campers in the middle of the night. One Nebraska resident bemoaned how boring it was living where he was by saying, "I am so in the middle of nowhere that I have Buffalo in my backyard".
- **Dennis Hartman** passed on a tip he was told to use if the Biffys ever ran out of toilet paper. He suggested that we offer to drag people through the grass by their ankles!
- **Aaron Livingston** was putting the finishing touches on a successful raid of a tentsite where two people were arrested for underage drinking. As one of them was on his knees, handcuffed and squirming uncomfortably, Aaron could see that something was wrong. He asked the kid if something was wrong, to which the kid replied, "I've got a SERIOUS wedgie. Can you help me out?". Aaron quickly made it clear that it would have to wait until he got to the police station as he was NOT gonna help him!

- **Jared Voller** came to the aid of a man who had locked his keys in his car. He told the dispatcher that the car was located at the Willmar Civic Center, to which he asked Jared, "What city is that in?"
- Lets not forget our buddy **Grant**, a local kid from Willmar (where else) who chose to use Sonshine's Tent City to drink and party with his friends. I'm sure he's feeling it was worth it after **Jon Ness, Pappas, and Livingston** had him arrested, his tent and cooler confiscated, blow a .21 on a breathalyzer, and spend the next 4 days in Detox. Looking forward to seeing you in 2001 there, buddy!
- **Melissa Strelow** claims it was not her, but someone stopped a car coming through the vehicle gate because it had no car pass in the window. The driver had a backstage wristband, but the guy in the back reading a newspaper did not. When he was asked to show a wristband, he slowly moved the paper down from in front of his face, revealing that he was Steven Curtis Chapman. Linda Westburg loved it!!
- If you missed spending time at HM, take a moment and ask **Nathan Fetterly** about "Rockets and Drapes". Nathan said he was "totally freaked". You know you're in for some fun when the band's looks are scaring people away. Then again **Charlie Bowen** was so moved by the second to last band on Saturday because they let ANYTHING go, that he was said to have hugged band members and almost shed a tear.

Thank you EVERYONE for such a wonderful Sonshine 2000. On behalf of the rest of the Supervisors, I want you to know that we only look good because of good people doing the work. You are to be congratulated on a fine effort! I am looking forward to seeing each of you at Sonshine 2001.

Jeff Quiggle  
 Director of Security  
 Sonshine Festival