

## D9 Carp Retreat 2011

First of all, I would like to thank all of those, who support us having the third annual D9 CARP retreat. With your support in finance, facility, and, of course, prayers, we could accomplish this event.

Shin Chun hung, myself, and our core members, Kook Sun Kim and Zachary Rogers, we were able to organize all the practical points, such as renting vehicles, ski equipments, and setting the cost of the whole retreat charging to each participant. The core members including, Kook, Zachary, Tomiya, Gugjin, Elisé, and myself were working as a team, and we could have 30 participants from Texas, 10 from New Mexico, and Hero Hernandez and Ten Seng Guh from the east coast attended. The event was the biggest one comparing to the past two events. In advance of two and half months, we had been contacting with all the college students in each state in District 9. We were grateful for Mr. and Mrs. Brewers for their support to drive some of the Texas participants to Denver and drove them back to Texas.

Tracey Cho took a role to become the head chef for the whole retreat. According to the survey from each participant, many of them were happy with tasty dishes with enough quantity.

We are privileged to have our CARP national leader, Hero Hernandez, to be a main speaker for internal guidance, true story about True Family. According to the reflection papers from each participant, we receive different reactions, but majority said that they felt closer to True Family after listening to their incredibly difficult course as True Parents and True Children have gone through. The internal guidance session by Hero deepened our connections with True Family.

Also, Ten-Seng Guh, an elder blessed child from the east coast, came to attend the D9 CARP retreat to experience the energized spirit of D9 CARP. He also happened to share his CARP experience in his campus, SUNY Binghamton. Showing funny and create videos, which were made by the Binghamton CARPs including non church members, gave us an impression that we can organize CARP activities with non-church members, who were inspired by our visions.

Very importantly, we would like to recognize Dallas, Austin, and Denver churches for offering 400 dollar donation from each church. Denver church offered their beautiful church facility for us to sleep, eat, and organize all the guidance sessions. Every participant learned internal contents, had exciting time with other brothers and sisters, enjoyed our meals, and slept comfortably. And we could experienced those profound and memorable times because of the church's plenty space, great location in front of a large park, and welcoming and warming spirit in the building. We are all thankful and grateful for the Denver community to support us to carry out the D9 retreat.

We all had a great experience in skiing. There were some of the participants, who skied for the first time, but none of them received any injury even small ones. So in terms of the safety, the ski day was successful. And with the great preparation by Kook, we could gather all the registration forms from each participant and pick up the ski equipments without any trouble. We could spend enough time to skiing in the great Rocky Mountains! Each of us experienced skiing in enjoyable, exciting, and even challenging ways. And our experiences of skiing were something unusual and extraordinary that we will not forget in the future.

We still have lots of things, such as the unclear schedules and late preparations for some schedules, that can be improved, and we can make the next CARP retreat better. Again, I would like that you for your support to make the D9 CARP retreat 2011 happen. Hopefully, we, as blessed children, will gather and do something meaningful, educational, and exciting.

Sincerely yours.

Koei Shimada