



News Release Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest



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BLACKWELL JOB CORPS CCC TO HOST SPECIAL EVENT SEPTEMBER 12

Blackwell, Wisc. – August 28, 2008. Blackwell Job Corps staff and students invite the public to a very special Open House, where the focus of the day will be to honor the original residents of the Center, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), who were part of a CCC camp at the same site during the 1930's. On Friday, September 12, the Center, along with dignitaries and community members, will “hand down the shovel of service to a new generation.” Several keynote speakers representing the state, local governments, communities, businesses, Blackwell staff and students, and the Chequamegon-Nicolet NF are scheduled to participate.

This year is the 75th anniversary of the CCC. From 1933 to 1942, thousands of young men took part in the Civilian Conservation Corps at camps throughout the United States. They built roads, bridges and other major infrastructure projects, maintained and improved parks and campgrounds, and kept communities strong. During the tenure of the program, the CCC boys, sometimes known as “Roosevelt’s Tree Army”, also planted between 2 to 3 billion trees across the country.

The day will begin with visitor sign-in and registration beginning at 10:30. The Celebration Commemoration Ceremony will begin at 11:00. A free lunch will be available for all guests and dignitaries at 11:45. During the afternoon, guided tours of the Center by Blackwell students will take place until 3:00.

According to Acting Center Director, Pat Valley, “We are very excited about having the opportunity to pay tribute to the CCC and celebrating our partnership with the Forest Service in maintaining the long-established tradition of providing services to our surrounding communities and to the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.”

The Center is requesting RSVP's from those who plan to attend via phone (715-674-2311) or email (scpeloquin@fs.fed.us).

To learn more about the legendary CCC program, visit the CCC alumni website at:
<http://www.cccalumni.org/>

To learn more about Blackwell and the Job Corps Program, visit:
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/cnnf/blackwell/index.html>