

WI-NE-MA CHRISTIAN CAMP INC.
Cloverdale, Oregon

[Taken from a postcard. The text is by Wm. F. Morse and the color photo on the postcard by Al Lesemann]

Wi-Ne-Ma Christian Camp is a year around camp located on Oregon Coast highway 101 at mile post 94 in Tillamook County. It is owned by Wi-Ne-Ma Christian Camp, Inc., a non-profit Oregon Corporation, which administrates the camp primarily for Undenominational Christian Churches, or Churches of Christ. The trustees of the camp sponsor a full summer schedule of Christian Youth Camps and Family Camps with over 2000 attending these camps. The buildings are winterized and the camp is used the year around by churches and other groups for winter planning and recreation.

The grounds, now consisting of 77 acres with about one half mile of beach frontage, were purchased in 1944 from the daughter of Joseph Card, who first dedicated the townsite of Wi-Ne-Ma which is part of the property. The purchase was made possible by loans and gifts made by the incorporators of the Camp, who were Elery A. Parrish, J. Frank Cunningham, Werner Rieder, Richard Borcharding, and Wm. F. Morse, and a gift by L.E. Bierce. The camp was named Wi-Ne-Ma Christian Camp because of the name given to the townsite by Mr. Card.

The name Wi-Ne-Ma was taken from the Historical Heroine of the Modoc Indian Wars of the Klamath Country. When Meacham, the Indian Agent, came to the Klamath Country to negotiate a treaty with the Modoc Indians, he impatiently waited for the interpreter he had been promised. There was brought before him a woman interpreter -- the woman who stood before him (Meacham) was an attractive full blood Modoc, a cousin of the Chief, born in a village at the upper end of Link River. She earned for herself the title "Wi-Ne-Ma," which means "Woman Chief of the Brave heart." During the negotiations she warned the White Men of the treachery of the Indian Chief, her cousin, but they did not heed her warning, and throwing herself between them, she saved their lives.

When Wi-Ne-Ma was but twelve years old she had been sold by the Chief, Captain Jack, to young Frank Riddle for the price of six ponies. Under his influence she rapidly changed, and she accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior. Their marriage was one of the first between the white man and the Indian, and she became a great help in teaching the Indian women the ways, culture and religion of her husband. She was indeed a very brave and courageous woman.

Today, the main support, other than fees, come from Churches of Christ or Christian Churches; thousands have accepted Christ as their Savior, and hundreds are now preaching the Gospel of Christ around the world for having spent a time at Wi-Ne-Ma Christian Camp.

Not sure of the date of this writing. Bill Morse was Manager from early in the Camp's history until 1968.

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