

**Minutes of February 1, 2003**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors of**  
**Camp Ridgecrest Alumni & Friends, Inc.**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. in the fireplace room of the Ridgecrest Conference Center by Steve Little, who opened the meeting in prayer. Those in attendance were Steve Little, Martha Jo Berry, Scott Luna, Jim Berry, Jackson Norton, Robert Angell, David Bell, Sr., Phillip Berry, Philip Brown, Richard Burts, Jr., Bill Culbreth, Scott Counce, Bobby Donnelly, Paul Grass, Frank Johnson, Dan Pierce, Daniel Redding, Jay Rhodes, Landis Stanfield and John Suggs. David Bell, Jr., Trey Davis and Lisa Harris Joyner attended as guests.

**Officer Reports**

Jim Berry presented written minutes of the Board of Directors meeting prepared by Jackson Norton for the Board of Directors meeting held on June 30, 2002, and for action taken by the Board by telephone and e-mail on September 12, 2002 and October 30, 2002. Jim noted a correction in the minutes for the meeting, which originally showed the Board of Directors meeting as being on June 29, 2002, and a correction of the spelling of Martha Jo Berry's name in the two actions taken without a meeting. With these corrections, the minutes were approved.

No reports were presented by the Chairman of the Board or the Vice Chairman. The Treasurer's report was presented by Scott Luna and Jackson Norton. Jackson noted that there was a significant depletion in unreserved cash and recommended that the Board adopt a job or cost system to charge some expenses to the chapel fund and to seek a better return on investment of reserve cash, primarily for the chapel fund. He announced a completion of the audit from Dixon Odom, LLC for the year 2001. After some discussion, it was agreed that a discussion would be held later in the meeting with Jeff Davis as to the options for investing this reserve cash.

Jackson Norton presented a report, including several written schedules, with regard to 2002 and 2003 financial matters. He reported on the initiation of the website and reported that it had been an efficient way to collect funds, particularly with the increased value and decreased costs of the arrangement with Camp Crestridge.

A motion was made by Steve Little and seconded by Landis Stanfield that the expenses for fund-raising be reimbursed from the chapel fund before investment. It was noted that, after payment for the Echo and postage and accounting for \$1,000.00 credit card liability, there was about \$500.00 left in unreserved cash. Steve Little requested a motion for reimbursement from the chapel fund for fund-raising expenses to unreserved funds prior to investment of unreserved cash. Landis Stanfield moved to transfer funds from the chapel fund to the unreserved fund to reimburse for such expenses and this motion was seconded by Jay Rhodes. Bill Culbreth suggested that this apply also to future expenses of like nature, and with the agreement of the mover and the seconder, the motion was so amended and passed with no opposition.

At this time, a conference call was held with Jeff Davis concerning the options available for investing the cash that will not be needed for some time period. Bill Culbreth indicated that it was unlikely that the cash would be needed before two years. Others noted that rates may go

up and we may want to limit some of our investment to one year. Jeff Davis suggested that investments could be done through a ladder of mutual funds or short-term investment grade A rated or above bonds. He also noted that certificates of deposit could be used. He suggested that we may be able to triple our return through this methodology. Jeff Davis agreed to analyze these investment needs and come back with a proposal. He indicated that this could be done for no charge other than a nominal posting fee and that no commission would be charged.

There was no Secretary's report or President and CEO report.

Daniel Redding presented a written Camp Ridgecrest report. He noted that for the first time in several years camper weeks went down, which was a similar trend with other camps in the area. He reported on the work on the dam and the replacement of the pipe and valve for the lake. Since more had been budgeted for the dam work than was needed, he reported on the plan to replace the docks and centralize the life-saving area. He reported on the new Shawnee bath house and the decision to build a handicap bathroom by the red cabin in lieu of building a ramp to the Shawnee bath house. He discussed the attempt to increase attendance closer to capacity and noted that this resulted in significantly higher income with little additional cost, which allowed the Camp to add additional activities.

Members of the Board discussed the importance of second and third generation campers on increasing attendance and noted that the summer is now shorter because of school calendars. The Board commended the Camp for keeping its attendance at such a high level of capacity under difficult economic circumstances.

### **Committee Reports**

Daniel Redding presented a projects report, including work at the Fall Weekend with the addition of benches at the lakeside chapel, the addition of a soccer backboard, improvements at the archery shack, restraining the sign and relocating rhododendron chapel.

With regard to the May Work Weekend, he pointed out that the projects would depend upon the lake.

There was no chapel report. Allen Sanders was unable to attend because of an emergency appendectomy. It was pointed out that the work on the chapel of the chapel committee was on hold pending the work of the chapel fund-raising committee.

Bill Culbreth presented a fund-raising report. It was pointed out that the address list needed to be updated. Jackson Norton included a slide showing the results of the fund raising to date and pointed out that there were over \$104,000 in accounts receivable and approximately \$85,000 in money market accounts. Some of the bigger gifts that were being solicited were discussed and a general discussion was held regarding the concept of naming opportunities for the fund-raising program. It was pointed out that the fund-raising was being done with an understanding that the cost of the chapel would be between \$500,000 and \$750,000.

Bill Culbreth pointed out the importance of the reunion with regard to a suggestion that a later gift to the chapel fund be included as part of the membership renewal form. It was decided to hold off with the hopes that a more targeted effort would encourage people to make bigger

gifts. Landis Stanfield pointed out the need for new names being suggested for members and later for solicitation for the chapel fund.

Because he needed to leave, Bill Culbreth as this time presented a proposal to revise the bylaws. The only change in this proposal was to remove Camp Crestridge from the bylaws since they had formed their own organization. It was pointed out that there could be other changes dictated by any philosophical issues. Robert Angell moved the approval of the bylaw amendment, which was seconded by Martha Jo Berry and the motion passed with no opposition. At this time, the meeting was adjourned for a break.

Upon resumption of the meeting, Frank Johnson presented a reunion report. He reported on the promotion of the reunion at Coke and ice cream days on opening days and indicated that Len Taylor had given the pitch at one opening day. He discussed the preparation of stickers to promote the reunion and noted that he had worked on arrangements for accommodations assigning hotels by era and decade. He encouraged people to make reservations at the hotels even if they may have to cancel later, noting that Steve Little had been the first to register.

Frank pointed out that he is planning to require a RSVP and proposed a \$75.00 fee with a \$90.00 late registration fee. He noted that he was proposing to prorate the fee for those who could not attend the entire weekend, but did not intend to advertise that. He suggested that Memorial Day be the early registration time and that we close registration by July 4<sup>th</sup>.

The events are expected to include a Saturday night barbeque and a late night on the upper grounds with a possible David Wilcox concert. Frank indicated an interest in roasting a pig for those who wanted to stay up late. He is hoping to have Jeff Knight do church. He pointed out that addresses and notes were being published in the Echo and that Scott Wooden is working on a poster. Registration is to be accomplished on-line and a message board would be included on the website.

A general discussion was held with regard to the proper pricing for the weekend, with various options and alternatives being discussed. Concerns were expressed about the level of the fee for those with big families and questions were raised as to whether this would discourage attendance. Frank provided some estimated cost figures of \$5.00 to \$10.00 for Friday night, \$15.00 for the banquet, \$5.00 for the barbeque on Sunday and \$5.00 for Saturday lunch. Jay Rhodes made a motion that the fee be changed to \$25.00 per head, which was seconded by Robert Angell. The importance of Friday night was emphasized and a discussion was held about the hope that some would come earlier for a Thursday night campfire. The importance of the decade parties on Friday night was also discussed. Scott Luna indicated a concern about setting the fee for the reunion as the same as dues and emphasized that it was important to clarify that the fee was not in lieu of dues. After continued discussion, attention was directed back to the motion on the floor that a fee of \$25.00 be set to include a Saturday banquet and a Sunday lunch, which passed without opposition. Paul Grass offered the amendment that a \$5.00 late charge be assessed, which was agreed to by those making and seconding the motion and approved.

It was the general consensus that the Friday night decade parties would be hosted by volunteers and not be financed directly out of the registration fees.

Frank Johnson and Phillip Berry emphasized the need for calls and e-mails to update the names on the website.

Bill Culbreth on behalf of the chapel fund-raising committee emphasized the importance of the giving of a big pitch on fund-raising for the chapel at this event and suggested that a lot of thought be put into this, including planning a thought on Friday for people to make a commitment to the chapel fund and to have some sort of a “alter call” on Saturday night.

There were no other committee reports.

### **Other Reports**

Lisa Harris Joyner, President of Camp Crestridge Alumnae & Friends, Inc., gave a report from that organization. She discussed the 50-year reunion in 2004 and noted that this was a big project for them. This would be Thursday night and Friday afternoon and end with a Saturday night campfire. This was being dictated by the need to get out when the staff returns. She suggested that the two organizations help to spread the word with each other’s reunions. She also indicated that their organization had thought it would be a neat idea for the two associations to exchange gifts and suggested a cost range of \$500.00 to \$1,000.00. After some discussion, the presentation by their to us of a bell was suggested and she indicated a need to talk about doing their gift at their next meeting.

Robert Suggs and Jackson Norton discussed the web page and its ability to pay dues contained a directory. Jackson noted that there were two or three people per week who joined the association online. He indicated that minutes, finances, bylaws and all were expected to be online at the web page.

Jackson Norton gave a report with regard to the Echo, which would go out Monday. The next one after that would be April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Old Business**

A discussion was held of the 2003 budget. A packet was provided with a proposed budget. It was noted that no income was shown for the 75<sup>th</sup> reunion. Jay Rhodes moved that the budget be approved and Scott Counce seconded the motion. A suggestion was made that a survey be made to eliminate some of the costs of mailing by having people elect to receive their Echo online. It was noted that the mailing was about \$200.00 a year. The motion carried without opposition.

A discussion was also held concerning by-laws and the need to clarify the role of the President and the CEO. Jackson Norton was directed to come back with a proposal to clarify the roles of the President and the CEO and the bylaws. A discussion was held as to whether a ground-breaking for the chapel would be held at the reunion and Paul Grass suggested that a more appropriate designation of this event would be a dedication of the site since we are not prepared to begin construction.

Frank Johnson presented various logos for the 75<sup>th</sup> reunion for comment and comments were solicited to be directed to Frank.

A discussion was held as to the need to nominate new Board members. Those whose terms expire include Steve Little, Dick Burts, Bill Culbreth, Scott Counce, Bobby Donnelly and Len Taylor. Steve Little and Jackson Norton were directed to talk with those who were mentioned so that they could be elected the Summer Board meeting.

### **New Business**

A proposal was made by Daniel Redding and Jackson Norton to hire a staff person for the summer to work with the Camp and preparations for the 75<sup>th</sup> reunion including security, parking, tables etc. Trey Davis was suggested to serve in this capacity. It was noted that this would be a decision for the Camp to make and that the Association would donate \$210 per week for nine weeks for salary and that the Camp would be responsible for payroll taxes, etc. Jay Rhodes made a motion, which was seconded, that this proposal be approved and it passed without opposition. It was understood that this person would serve as a liaison between the Camp and the Alumni Association to facilitate the 75<sup>th</sup> reunion and it would be a position only for this summer. It was pointed out that, while there was nothing in the budget for the reunion, that the registration fee would help cover this cost and it was noted that approval of this proposal in effect modified the budget previously adopted. It was noted that this could be someone other than Trey.

Frank Johnson raised the question as to whether there was some way to help parents tap into the Association and let the Association use the parents as a resource in an arrangement similar to the PTA for schools. Martha Jo Berry, Jim Berry and Phillip Berry expressed the importance of nurturing this relationship. A discussion was had of having packets given to new parents, including perhaps a letter from a parent that would come after registration for camp to encourage their involvement and give information from the parents' prospective of the possibilities of a relationship. It was suggested that this be a separate letter that was send after the application came in. The notion was that this might be similar to parents' councils at universities and would be more of a friendly vs. business-like communication. With the Bells represented on the Board of Directors, it was agreed that this idea of parents getting more involved should be further discussed. A discussion was had with regard to old families, leads on people in big churches such as First Church of Orlando. It was noted that Jim Henry was on sabbatical.

A discussion was held as to when the next meeting should be. A first suggestion was that there would be no full Board of Directors meeting during the reunion weekend. Various options for a Board meeting before that were discussed, including the week of Spring Work Weekend or June 14<sup>th</sup>. It was finally decided that the meeting would be held the weekend of the 75<sup>th</sup> reunion on Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

There being no further business for discussion to be held, the meeting was adjourned by Steve Little.

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### **Board Action Taken 6/25/2003**

Scott Whiddon (nominated by Phillip Brown), Jacob Driggers (nominated by Frank Johnson, Adam Underwood (nominated by Jackson Norton), Jason Hall (nominated by Jackson Norton), and Matt Brown (nominated by Jackson Norton) were contacted by letter to determine their willingness to serve on the Board of Directors of Camp Ridgecrest Alumni & Friends, Inc. In each case the nominator was given a copy of the letter sent and was asked to contact those they nominated about Board service.