

**Minutes of the General Members
Meeting Saturday, July 16, 2005
Camp Ridgecrest Alumni & Friends, Inc.**

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 pm on Saturday, July 16, 2005, in Spilman Lodge at Camp Ridgecrest for Boys by Landis Stanfield, Vice Chairman, who presided. Matthew Fowler, Secretary, called roll. Those in attendance were: David Bell, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Jim Berry, Richard Burts, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Brown, Jacob Driggers, Matthew Fowler, Michael Guisti, Adam Hewitt, Hal Hill, Frank Johnson, Chris Maslin, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Pierce, Alan Sanders, Landis Stanfield, John Suggs, Hewlett Sullivan, and Adam Underwood. Jackson Norton attended as President and CEO. Matthew Fowler presented the minutes of the July, 10, 2004, General Members Meeting, which were approved.

Officer Reports

No Chairman's Report was presented due to Scott Luna's absence.

There was no Vice Chairman's Report.

Jacob Driggers presented the Treasurer's Report. Jacob gave a general financial review indicating, to date, approximately Three Hundred Thousand (\$300,000) Dollars had been raised for the Ridgecrest Chapel project. Of that amount, approximately Eighty-Four Thousand (\$84,000) Dollars are in the form of pledges. Jacob indicated, this year, approximately Twenty-Eight Thousand (\$28,000) Dollars had been donated to the Alumni Association. Of that amount, approximately Twenty-Four Thousand (\$24,000) Dollars had been designated for the Ridgecrest Chapel project and approximately Four Thousand (\$4,000) Dollars were unrestricted funds. Finally, Jacob reported the Alumni Association has approximately One Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$150,000) Dollars in bonds with "laddered" maturity dates in 2006, 2007, and 2008.

There was no Secretary's Report.

Jackson Norton presented the President and CEO's Report. Jackson reported that a new issue of the *ECHO* is being produced by Adam Underwood and should be ready for mailing in the next two or three weeks.

Committee Reports

Adam Hewitt presented the Fundraising Committee Report. Adam indicated that current Ridgecrest staffer Billy Jones is in the process of contacting each member of the Alumni Association updating members on Camp Ridgecrest and the Alumni Association and to offer a final opportunity to contribute to the Ridgecrest Chapel project. To date,

Billy's telephone calls have raised approximately Seven Hundred (\$700) Dollars for the project. Billy has not completed calling every member but will have this done before the Ridgecrest Fall Work Weekend. Adam also reported that he and Jackson continue to develop the database of alumni from the 1960's, 1970's, and 1980's from the old camper and staff applications being stored at Camp. Adam indicated he will create a post card to "touch base" with these Alumni updating them with Ridgecrest and the Alumni Association as well as to offer an opportunity to contribute to the Ridgecrest Chapel campaign. Finally, Adam reported hopefully by the banquet at the Fall Work Weekend, he would be able to report on what contribution the Chatlos Foundation has made to the Ridgecrest Chapel project.

Alan Sanders presented the Ridgecrest Chapel Committee Report. Alan indicated the Ridgecrest Chapel Committee would become "active" again once the final total for the project has been finalized. Based on that number, the committee would begin the process of finalizing design and construction plans.

Frank Johnson presented the Special Events Committee Report. Frank reported there had been an excellent turnout for the Spring Work Weekend. Frank indicated the Fall Work Weekend would take place the weekend of October 15-16, 2005. Frank reminded the Board a special banquet will be planned for the evening of October 15, 2005, to celebrate the conclusion of fundraising efforts and to thank the contributors to the Ridgecrest Chapel campaign. A post card will be mailed to the contributors inviting them to the event. Frank then reported on the proposed Alumni cruise to the Caribbean during the New Year's holiday of 2006-2007. Frank stated he was still waiting for the cruise line to release the official cruise dates and prices. Once the dates are announced, the travel agent may begin receiving deposits.

There was no Webmaster's Report due to Robert Suggs being unable to attend. Landis did encourage everyone to check out the Ridgecrest website. The website is: www.ridgecrestcamps.com.

Hal Hill and Chris Maslin presented the Camp Ridgecrest Report. Hal stated that enrollment at both camps were up this summer. Enrollment is 8%-10% higher than last year. Hal indicated that the girls' camp is approximately 96% full this summer and boys' camp is approximately 83-84% full. Enrollment is on pace to be the second highest ever only behind the summer of 2001. These numbers are encouraging since there was a decline in enrollment for the summers following 2001. Chris Maslin reported that Ridgecrest had a very good staff this summer. To date, parent evaluations have been very positive. Also Ridgecrest has seen 30-33% of its' campers being new campers. Chris also reported they have dealt with rain on almost a daily basis. Hal reported how much he has enjoyed being at Ridgecrest this summer on a daily basis and getting to know and interact with the staff and campers. He echoed Chris's assessment of the staff and believes the campers have had a positive experience this summer. Chris and Hal presented three new programs that will be introduced at Ridgecrest next summer. Ridgecrest is planning to add one week of camp to the end of the traditional eight week summer session. This week (tentatively been called junior camp) would be

for new campers only. This week would introduce these new campers to the Ridgecrest experience. The campers would arrive on a Sunday and leave on a Friday. During the week campers ages seven to nine would be exposed to some of the activities and traditions of Ridgecrest. The goal would be for these campers to enjoy their experience and return to Ridgecrest for a full two-week session the following summer. Secondly, Hall described Ridgecrest's interest in expanding our current Sioux Trailblazer program to New Mexico. Ridgecrest is exploring the idea of having one two-week session based from the Glorieta Conference Center in New Mexico. Campers would participate in two five-day trips in the New Mexico mountains. Hal is currently looking for potential leaders of this program. Finally, Chris outlined a new program that will hopefully be in place next summer. Chris described the importance of developing a program similar to the old Ridgecrest Counselor in Training (CIT) program to help develop better summer staffers and help bring ease the transition from camper and staffer. This program would be designed to bring seventeen year old former campers back for a four week session to provide services to camp and prepare them for their work as counselors and junior counselors. The participants in this program will not be paid for their work and training but will be provided free room/board. Participants will live in a cabin together and be lead by a director who will organize their daily schedules and facilitate their staff development/training program. Chris indicated the program will be centered about three major components. These components include: 1. discipleship, 2. fellowship, and 3. provide junior counselor type (labor) tasks. Chris encouraged the Board to be in prayer as Ridgecrest tries to implement these new programs and find dedicated leaders who can lead these programs.

There were no other committee reports.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Jackson Norton presented to the general membership the eight alumni members recommended by the Board of Directors to serve a three year term on the Board of Directors replacing the eight Directors rotating off. The members recommended by the Board of Directors are: Jim Berry, Martha Jo Berry, Steve Cothran, Dr. Michael Guisti, Dan Haughton, Ernie Roberts, Ben Talbert, and Todd Young. Dan Pierce made a motion, seconded by Dr. Alan Sanders, that the slate of eight alumni members nominated by the Board of Directors be approved to serve as Directors on the Board of Directors for a three year term. The motion passed unanimously.

Jackson informed the Alumni members that the Alumni Association had received some funds earmarked for the construction of a pavilion on Lake Ridgecrest. Jackson reported that the Board of Directors was currently reviewing construction options and costs. The pavilion will be similar to the one at Crestridge and will be located on the lake near the location of the old "H" dock.

Frank Johnson reminded the Board that he and Dr. Burts have developed and prepared the female staffer award to be presented annually to a female staffer in memory of Mrs. Ruth Burts. There will be a perpetual plaque that will list the award recipients. This plaque will hang in the Lake Lodge with the Ridgecrest, Outstanding Junior Counselor, Outstanding Counselor, and Ten Year Award plaques. This award will be presented to a female staffer this summer. The award will be voted on by the summer staff following the same process as the other awards presented to Ridgecrest staff at the conclusion of each summer. Frank also reported that he is preparing a short biography on Mr. and Mrs. Burts. Mr. Burts served as the first director of Camp Ridgecrest for Boys and he and Ruth were married in Rhododendron Chapel.

There was no other new business.

Discussion for the Betterment of the Association

Frank Johnson encouraged everyone to attend the Fall Work Weekend being held the weekend of October 15-16, 2005. Landis thanked everyone for attending the General Members Meeting and wished everyone safe travel home.

Closing Prayer

There being no other issues to discuss, it was moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn. The motion for adjournment passed unanimously. Hewlett Sullivan closed the meeting in prayer.