

**Minutes of the General Members
Meeting Sunday, July 27, 2008
Camp Ridgecrest Alumni & Friends, Inc.**

The meeting was called to order at 2:25pm on Sunday, July 27, 2008, at the Camp Ridgecrest pavilion by Jackson Norton, President, who presided. Dan Pierce opened the meeting in prayer. Matthew Fowler, Secretary, called roll. Those in attendance were: Trey Gibbs, Joey Britt, P.K. Snead, Adam Underwood, Matthew Fowler, Chris Maslin, Hal Hill, Steven LaSota, Doug Trotter, Nu Wexler, Ernie Roberts, Dan Pierce, Kenny Byrd, Paul Grass, Hewlett Sullivan, Steve Little, Jim Berry, Martha Jo Berry, Frank Johnson, Adam Hewitt, Guillermo Velasco, Phi Brown, Stephen Stroud, Landis Stanfield, Chip Buhler, Steve Cothran, Alan Sanders, Scott Young, Scott Suggs, Robert Hardy, Matthew Brown and Scott Whiddon. Jackson Norton attended as President.

Officer Reports

There was no Chairman's Report.

There was no Vice Chairman's Report.

Jackson Norton, presented the Treasurer's Report in Jacob Driggers' absence. Jackson gave a general financial review indicating that the Alumni Association, as of July 22, 2008, had a balance of Twenty Two Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Five and 17/100ths (\$22,435.17) Dollars with zero liabilities to give the Alumni Association assets of Twenty Two Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Five and 17/100ths (\$22,435.17) Dollars. Jackson reminded the Membership that we are currently promoting the "Crazy Eights Campaign" in celebration of Camp's 80th summer. The goal is to raise Eighty Thousand (\$80,000.00) Dollars by December 31, 2008. Jackson indicated that ideally we would like to reach this goal by September so that Camp can receive these funds prior to the end of its fiscal year on September 30. Monies have been coming in throughout the weekend in support of this campaign.

There was no Secretary's Report except to report that the July 2007 General Members Minutes will be submitted for approval at the July 2009 General Members meeting. An electronic copy of the minutes are available on the Alumni website for review.

Jackson Norton presented the President's Report. Jackson expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve as President these past eleven years and will work with the newly appointed Search and Leadership Structure Committee to find an appropriate replacement. Jackson also encouraged the Members to use the completion of the Chapel as a springboard to take on new fundraising efforts as we continue to serve Christ and Camp Ridgecrest as it ministers to the hundreds of campers who come through its gates each summer. Jackson reminded the Members of all that they have accomplished since the creation of the Association in 1992: the Outdoor Adventure Program (climbing wall, mountain bikes, low ropes course), scholarships, work weekend projects, the Chapel, the new blob, various AV/sound equipment and many other contributions of time, money and

talents. The Members expressed their gratitude to Jackson for his years of faithful service to Ridgecrest and specifically the Alumni Association.

Hal Hill presented the Lifeway and Camp Ridgecrest Reports. Hal brought greetings from Byron Hill (Lifeway Director of Conference Centers) and Jerry Rhyne (Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of the finance and business services divisions of Lifeway). Hal expressed deep appreciation to the Members for their continued support and involvement with Camp. Hal indicated that the monies raised by this organization helps Camp allocate monies to other projects, programs, and scholarships. Hal reported that he is hoping for and anticipating an infusion of capital into the Boys and Girls Camps over the next two years. These funds will be primarily used to update camper housing facilities at the two Camps as well as new and updated administrative space. Construction efforts will mainly begin on the Crestridge campus this off-season and on the Ridgecrest campus the following-off-season. Hal indicated that the first phase will probably include the construction of two new cabins on the Shawnee and Choctaw hills this off-season. The Members expressed its support of renovation efforts of the cabins. Hal indicated that there may be opportunities for volunteer work crews to assist in the demolition and renovation efforts. Hal did stress that timing will be crucial in organizing these volunteer efforts since the cabins will need to be ready for occupancy by early May of each year. Renovations will include a general update of the interior of the cabins as well as an external “face-lift” to include the possible utilization of “hardy board planks/T one eleven materials). Hal indicated that there will be naming rights opportunities for the cabins based on various levels of giving (probably around \$7,500.00 for the renovated cabins and more for the newly constructed cabins) and assured that efforts will be made to ensure the documentation and preservation of the names and dates that adorn the walls of the existing cabins. This may include photographic documentation and well as the possibility of preserving several 4 x 4 sections of each cabin and including those sections some way into the new construction.

There were no other reports.

Committee Reports

Frank Johnson presented the Special Events Committee Report. Frank thanked everyone who attended the various activities of the 80th Reunion Celebration. Attendance has been good and that Alumni seem to be enjoy visiting with fellow Alumni and participating in the various events. Frank reminded the Association that while we will not have an official reunion until the 85th, there is an Annual Members Meeting each year during the month of July and all are encouraged to attend.

There were no other committee reports.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Dan Pierce and other Members of the Association extended a sincere “thank-you” to Frank Johnson for his tireless efforts and devotion to Camp and this Association, not only for the 80th Reunion Celebration, but also his efforts since the Association’s inception in 1992. Dan Pierce made a motion, seconded by Phil Brown, that the Alumni Association establish an annual award to recognize an individual’s or group’s outstanding contributions to the Alumni Association. This annual award will be named in honor of Frank Johnson and Frank shall be the first recipient of this award. After brief discussion the motion passed unanimously. Appropriate plaque(s) will be created to memorialize recipients of this annual award.

Jackson Norton reminded the Members that a date needs to be set for the annual Alumni Fall Work Weekend. Jackson made a motion, seconded by Matthew Fowler, that the annual Alumni Fall Work Weekend be held the weekend of October 3, 4, and 5, 2008. Following brief discussion, the motion passed unanimously. Adam Underwood announced that a special Board of Directors meeting has been called for that weekend to discuss the recommendations from the Board’s Search and Leadership Structure Committee as it continues to search for a replacement for Jackson to serve as President of the Association.

Jackson Norton and Matthew Fowler presented to the general membership the slate of 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 slate of members recommended by the Board of Directors were: Steve Cothran, Dr. Mike Guisti, Ernie Roberts, Dr. Alan Sanders, Phil Brown, Jackson Norton, Mariam Zimmerman and Hewlett Sullivan. Steve Little made a motion, seconded by Dan Pierce, 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.

There was no other new business.

Discussion for the Betterment of the Association

There was brief discussion regarding the possible installation of an HVAC system or ventilation system in the Chapel to address the temperature issue in that building. Camp Administration is currently researching several avenues and welcomes any input on possible solutions from Association Members.

There was also brief discussion regarding the preservation of the names/dates/ranks in the existing cabins as renovations are expected to begin on the cabins in the next one to two years. Hal reiterated that all reasonable steps will be taken to preserve and memorialize the existing names/dates/ranks in the cabins. Camp Administration is committed to working with the Association in this process and welcome any recommendations on how this can be accomplished.

Frank Johnson reminded the members that Frisbee golf with Ron Springs will begin at 4:00pm, Council Ring will begin at approximately 7:15pm and the Clothing Store is open throughout the afternoon.

There was no other discussion.

Adjournment

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