

2017 Fall Edition

Cal Farley's Alumni Newsletter

"A good man dies when a boy goes wrong." –Cal Farley

When the Chips Are Down...

"We are continually faced by great opportunities brilliantly disguised as insoluble problems..." Lee Iacocca

This has been a transitional year. The convergence of several events has made difficult circumstances even more difficult. Not ignoring my own lapses in leadership, any one of these things alone might cause stress. But together, they make for a toxic soup... or, wonderful opportunity, depending on the point of view one chooses to take.

Based on competition in funding, legislative changes, and societal trends the board decided to pursue a strategic focus on programs at Boys Ranch with no associated community based services. As a result, family case management services were eliminated in six Family Resource Centers and the Center for Women and Children (Giristown, USA). The impact has been resounding.

For those we serve, we allowed generous timelines for ending services to them. The termination of therapeutic relationships requires a process and the families we were helping would not be able to replicate the support they were receiving from Cal Farley's. I received several panic calls from parents, but our strong professional social worker team used remarkable finesse to settle them.

For the employees whose jobs were impacted, there was an underlying sense of disappointment, and in some cases feelings of betrayal in losing their jobs. Some of these employees had relatively long and dedicated tenures with Cal Farley's, and some struggled with the sense that maybe their efforts were not appreciated or understood.

More often than not, however, I received responses from this group expressing appreciation for the experience of working for Cal Farley's and having a hand in the furtherance of our mission.

Alumni always are very attentive to change. This is normal and will always be present. Helping them (you all) understand change is necessary, and probably underrated in terms of its importance. Some who don't support change, probably won't, ever.

What I believe; however, is that disagreement with change often stems from lack of understanding rather than flat out resistance. And, leaders among our alums who understand the world of work and who have accepted changes in our programs over the years have expressed nothing but support.

Business partners have been witness to the changes. Whatever facet of the work they support, most have experienced such transitions in their own businesses, so they understand it. The biggest concern among vendors, insurers, bankers, and lawyers is the potential of losing our business. And, the byproduct of that is increased sensitivity to fees and quality of service... not a bad thing.

And finally, donors and sponsors who support Cal Farley's financially have an important stake in our efforts. Most donors are not local. They contribute because they believe in our mission, paying most attention to values rather than program configuration... they are mostly oblivious to the changes.

Locally, it's a little different. Some have been caught off-guard by the perceived suddenness of some of the changes they see. But, I have yet to come across anyone who openly disagrees with strategic decisions after taking time to listen to our rationale. Again, there is a general sense of trust that the board and staff are making decisions in the best interest of the children and organization as a whole.

Now, when the chips are down, in the most challenging of times, we all must step up in our support of our youth and those closest to our mission centered work... the heartbeat of the organization.

(Continued, see **CHIPS**, page 2)

<http://calfarley.org>

Alumni Support Services

Kim Reeves
806-322-2531
kimreeves@calfarley.org

Newsletter

Cheree Gilliam
806-322-2645
chereegilliam@calfarley.org

Published Quarterly

All submissions and comments should be received NO LATER than December 31 to make it into the 2017-18 Winter edition of the Alumni Newsletter.

2017-18 Calendar

Boys Ranch Cantata
Dec 17, 2017
Dallas Gathering
Feb 17, 2018
BR Graduation
May 26, 2018

(See Alumni website for Gathering details)

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Condolences



Lee W Pemberton

Boys Ranch 57-61
September 13, 2017
Amarillo, TX



J.T. Dupree Jr

Boys Ranch 72-75
August 16, 2017
Maitowoc, WI



Darrell W Turner

Boys Ranch 55-67
August 3, 2017
Pampa, TX



Tony Parker

Boys Ranch 80-83
July 14, 2017
Amarillo, TX



Pat Stuart Ellis

Staff
July 11, 2017
Newberry Park, CA

Alumni News

Prayers go out to Shane Hulen (06), Carl Hulen (11) and Carla Hulen (11) on the recent passing of their mother.

Sympathy to Amber Green-Jones (07) on the loss of her twin brother.

Congratulations to Angelo McClain (75) on being recognized as a distinguished alumni by West Texas A&M.

Congratulations to Tim Sheehan (90) and wife, Tammy on the recent birth of their new granddaughter. Vivian Lynn Robertson was born 8/22/17.

Prayers Needed

Chris Landers
Hurricane victims

Roll Call (Alumni we've heard from or talked to)

Chuck Farrell (59), James "Cal" Calhoun (63), Tom Weissinger (63), Charlie Brady (64), Rob Waldrup (69), Hap Rainbolt (69), Sarah McCullough (69), Jimmie Boatwright (70), David Gaylor (75), Matt Wilkinson (76), John Hill (78), Tom Maynard (82), Michael Price (83), Jerry Norwood (83), David Lee Reed (87), Dean Thompson (87), Robert Brethaur (88), Dustin Melton (90), Rebecca Webb (GT/90), Brian Brady (90), Cody White (92), Clay Baker (93), Amy Wheeler (97), Dallas McCracken (02), Kansas McCracken (02), Ronnie Anderson (02), Augie Fabela (02), Steven Crary (03), Aaron Johnson (07), Kavaun Bailey (08), Jennifer Castaneda (09), Mr. Bynum Sparks

Veterans Memorial

We are putting in another order for stones for the Veterans Memorial. If you would like to have a stone for you or someone you know, please turn in the information by October 18. The stones contain 3 lines with no more than 20 characters (including spaces) per line. Include the following information:

Name • Years at BR/GT • Branch of Service • Years of Service
Something else: i.e. Campaign, Rank, Ship, Duty Station, Honors*

Go to the CFBRAA Website (www.calfarleysalumni.com) and click on "Veterans Memorial" on the menu bar for detailed information. Click on "Veterans Memorial Wall Form" to provide all information needed. You are invited to make a donation of \$150 for the stone and engraving. You may also sponsor a Vet to get their stone placed on the wall. You may also wish to purchase a Veterans Memorial Coin.

Hurricane Relief

CFBRAA is seeking to be family to our brothers and sisters in need because of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. We have been receiving donations and will give 100% of what is donated directly to alumni families in crisis. We've reached out to everyone we can in the stricken areas and have identified several serious needs. We set up a Go-Fund-Me page, but it is much better to give directly through PayPalGiving (Go-Fund-Me takes about 8% of the donation. PayPalGiving takes nothing.) If you would like to give go to:
<https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/2291517>
If you happen to be one of the victims of these disasters please contact Bob Sarpalius: 817-739-6590; cfbraa@gmail.com.

Thank you for being family to the family.

CHIPS (continued from page 1)

All of our attention is back on Boys Ranch. In some ways, it's like going back in time, but our programs look very different now than they were in the past. The interests of young people and the opportunities available to them have changed dramatically. Old staples like the work program, the Rodeo, and FFA, all still exist, but have a place on a much larger continuum of options for youth.

This month, we'll be celebrating the 25th anniversary of girls coming to Boys Ranch!

And next month, we are opening a new home –the Waldrup home. This will provide beds for 12 more boys, at which time we'll have a capacity for 296 youngsters. We'll not go back to the days of having over 400 at Boys Ranch, but the ones we have will have the experience of a lifetime... one that will serve them well from now on.

So, we'll keep the fire burning at Boys Ranch...

One member of my staff commented, "Dan, it never seems good enough," and I responded, "You are exactly right, it will never be good enough." And, failure in the pursuit of being better, would only come through NOT exploiting the opportunities that reside in the perceived problems. And, we're going to keep the fire burning.



Cal Farley's Boys Ranch Alumni Association

www.calfarleysalumni.com

Cal Farley's Boys Ranch
Alumni Association
PO Box 9435
Amarillo, TX 79105

facebook Cal Farley's Boys Ranch Alumni
Bobby Sarpalius, Exec Director
cfbraa@gmail.com
817-739-6590

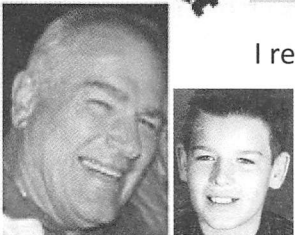
Needed - 40 Fabulous Family Members

CFBRAA is looking for 40 Fabulous Family members to participate in making the 2018 Scholarship Fundraiser the best ever. We have raised over \$25K a year for the past 3 years to provide scholarships for family members of CFBRAA. It is a bit of a misstatement to say "we." Actually one alum has raised that much. He has done so by encouraging 100 of his friends and associates to give. It is a passion for him and we have all benefited by his efforts. He can't keep doing this and we can't keep depending on one person. So we are looking for 40 Fabulous Family members to take up the effort. We need 40 people to get **just 5 people each** to contribute to the CFBRAA Scholarship Fundraiser. That is very little, but multiplied by 40, we may come close to replacing the efforts of one man. Will you be one of the 40? Those who have signed up to be one of the Fabulous 40 are currently:

Michael Riley of Amarillo, TX	John Sharp of Amarillo, TX	David Rattan of NRH, TX
Bret Tibbets of Lincoln, NE	David Rodgers of Carlsbad, NM	Harold Russell of Garland, TX
Dean Sharp of Horseshoe Bay, TX	Bob Sarpalius of Arlington, TX	

Just 32 more to go. We will provide you with sample emails and letters to use to encourage friends, business associates, relatives and whoever you may be willing to tell of the good work being done, inviting them to be a part of it. We currently have students from Tennessee to Seattle on scholarship. It is good work we are doing, but it can't be done without contributors. Contact Bob Sarpalius, cfbraa@gmail.com or Chuck Farrell, cnbfarrell@earthlink.com to become one of the **Fabulous 40!**

Bob's Bear



Bobby Sarpalius (67)

...continued commitment

I read a really good article in the Cal Farley's Roundup about an ex-Rancher named Tyler. It reminded me again how blessed we are by our former home. Cal Farley's continues to change, and the changes are always seeking to be better...better at their only task, helping young troubled kids be successful in life. I remember when I left, 50 years ago, they had prepared me to make it on my own. And that's pretty much where they left off. Now, Cal Farley's continues to "have your back."

The Alumni Support Center, the business partnerships for employing former Ranchers, the crisis support, the scholarships and the invaluable support of the Alumni Association are examples of Cal Farley's continued commitment to helping troubled kids be successful. They even offer professional counseling support of men and women who trace psychological issues back to BR. What kind of help do most kids get from their families? That is the kind of help Cal Farley's provides for us, the family away from home. We are a blessed bunch ...all 10,000+ of us...

On behalf of the grown kids, thank you much, Cal & Mimi, and the hundreds who continue to carry on their work.

50 for 50 is On AGAIN!

CFBRAA has kicked off the 2017-18 50 for 50 Gun Raffle and tickets are available both for purchase and for distribution. The drawing will again be at the Dallas Gathering on February 17th. If you would like to purchase a ticket contact

Tony Wade / shuronawade@yahoo.com

This has been the most popular fundraiser we have done and there are a lot of interested purchasers. Spread the word and let's get these sold before the end of the year.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER by Jimmie Boatwright (70)



Brothers and sisters, it is an honor and a privilege to serve as the president of the Cal Farley's Boys Ranch Alumni Association! I am looking forward to a great year and to being in touch with as many of you as possible this year!

You have a great board of directors and many committee chair persons and committee members who work very hard to make this organization the best it can be. Your participation is critical, there is always a committee that can use some extra people.

I hope that each of you will make an effort to attend a Gathering near you this year. I plan to make as many as possible myself. It is always important to keep in contact with our brothers and sisters.

I especially want to extend a warm welcome to all ladies from Girlstown and Boys Ranch to become active within the association. We are all one family and we are "keepers of our brothers and sisters."

Many of you are aware that I was married this last Saturday, September 30, 2017, to Sherry Finstad, who grew up at Boys Ranch because her parents, Guy and Geneva Finstad worked there. Sherry is on the board of directors and will be a great asset to me! We are both committed to our roots and the success of the Alumni Association and Cal Farley's Boys Ranch.

Have a great Fall Y'all and see you down the road!

Board of Directors

Cal Farley's Boys Ranch Alumni Association is a "member driven" organization. That is to say the members make decisions at the general meeting and elect the BOD which makes decisions for the membership the rest of the year. The truth is, the BOD does the work for the membership.

The current BOD is:

Jimmie Boatwright, Pres
Cam Lindsey, Vice Pres
David Rattan, Treasurer
Amy Brasher, Secretary
Tony Wade
David Rodgers

Daniel Scroggs
Bret Tibbets
Dean Sharp
Alan Dore
Chuck Farrell
Sherry Finstad Boatwright

Beverly Hall
Cylinda Case
Michael Rogers
Kyle Wilkinson
Dennis Linam
Billy Bob Touchstone

These men and women meet via conference calls about 8 times a year at regular or special called meetings. Each serves on at least one of the 6 standing committees and the committee chairpersons and officers make up the Executive Committee. This Association has grown a lot and does much on behalf of all alumni of BR and GT. They are your contact persons for suggestions, questions and even criticisms that would help your Association do good work. Lift them up!



Boys Ranch 1971 Halloween

CFBRAA Standing Committees

Executive Committee

David Rodgers / davescorn@yahoo.com

Development Committee

David Rattan / maxcackle@msn.com

Finance Committee

Michael Rogers / gemrogers@embarqmail.com

Membership Committee

Beverly Hall / sbhall94@sbcglobal.net

Scholarship Committee

Chuck Farrell / cnbfarrell@earthlink.net

Crisis Support Committee

Dean Sharp / dean@deansharpconsulting.com

Annual Reunion Committee

Tony Wade / shuronawade@yahoo.com
Cylinda Case / cylindacase@gmail.com

Looking for BR Yearbooks!

They will be returned, unharmed and at no cost to you. I only wish to make a copy of them for my files.

If you have one (or all) of these books, please contact Cheree at chereegilliam@calfarley.org or direct at 806/322-2645.

1958, 1960, 1961 & 1962

