

Alumni Support Services

By Kim Reeves

Cal Farley's remains committed to our former residents into adulthood. It's a familial bond much like that of a traditional family. We invest in our alumni's future by helping them pursue educational success and a smooth transition into independent life. Maintaining a lifelong relationship with former Cal Farley's residents allows them the comfort to know their needs, from a caring ear to casework and a wide range of other services are always available, should they ever have the need. For more information, please contact Kim Reeves at (806) 570-6465.

Florida Gathering

April 8th & 9th are the dates for the Florida Gathering. We will be meeting in Ocala this year. Plan to spend the weekend as we are making arrangements for some family outings as well as group gatherings. Saturday, the 9th we will gather at the home of Michael & Cynthia Rogers for supper. Mark the date and make your plans.

Class Reunions

Now is the time to start planning class reunions. If you would like to set up a class reunion, either at the Annual Meeting on Labor Day weekend, or any other time, contact Bob Sarpalius to help get the word out. Classes that might gather this year: Class of '06 – 10th; '96 – 20th; 91 – 25th; '76 – 40th; '66 – 50th.

Regional Gatherings

If you would like to see or host a gathering in your area please contact Bob Sarpalius to set it up and get the word out. [817-739-6590 or cfbraa@sarpserv.com]

50 for 50

CFBRAA is holding a raffle on February 13th at the Dallas Gathering where we will give away 50 guns. All proceeds from the raffle go to support the mission of CFBRAA. You can be a winner if: 1) you live in the state of Texas, 2) you purchase a raffle ticket for \$50; and 3) your ticket is drawn. Only 1,000 tickets will be sold and 1,000 numbers will be included in the drawing.

When a number is drawn it will be put back in the hopper for the next drawing. Hence you could win over and over again. You can see a list of the guns being given away on the web site: www.calfarleysalumni.com. You can purchase your tickets by contacting Bob Sarpalius [817-739-6590 or www.cfbraa@sarpserv.com]. Be sure to get your chance to win 50 guns for \$50.



Christmas Lights Judging

By Daniel Scroggs (83)

Well another successful year judging the Christmas Lights out at Cal Farley's Boys Ranch.

The 3rd Place Winners are the young boys of Fischer,

The 2nd Place Winners are the young men in Rafter R,

And the 2015 Winners of this year's contest are the young ladies of Romersi Home.

This year's Judges were comprised of Alumni and their families, a co-worker and his family, and I decided to involve Cal Farley's residents from numerous homes. Judges are as follows: Andrew, Kaili, Audrey and Abran Herr, (Andrew works at United Road Services with me). Patsy Brooks Tallant, along with Kristina Cole, Landon Walker and Aubrey May. JoLea Adams, **Amy Adams Brasher** (92) along with Aubrey and Sam Brasher. **Daniel Scroggs** (83) and Jessie Clark Scroggs.

And joining us from Cal Farley's were, Alison (Viegel), Jake (MF), Jazz (Finch), Michael (Fischer), Zane (Henry), Aaron (Johnson), Ocean (Lutz) and Mack (Tunnel). I also want to extend a special thank you to **Don Hipp** (74) for helping to organize this year's Judging Contest.

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2015-2016 Winter Edition

Cal Farley's Alumni Newsletter

"Every boy has someone he must prove himself to." –Cal Farley

Another Year...

Well, another year slipped up on us and flew by like a flash! I guess it's true that "time flies when you're having fun." At least, some of the time. After all, we are dealing with children and fun and adventure are essential elements of our approach to working with these youngsters.

But, there is a very serious side to what we do as well. First of all, youngsters don't come here because things are going well, and most of them would rather be home. It takes some time before a child heals to the point they begin to see the fun in their lives, and getting them there requires some pretty sophisticated staff.

There is also a serious business side to Cal Farley's. As far as non-profit organizations go, we are considered a complex configuration of programs, operations, staffing, finance and fundraising. It is a business model with a lot of integrity, but it doesn't run itself.

While our mission and values remain true, our approaches to dealing with children and our business must be responsive to external factors. These can be quite daunting.

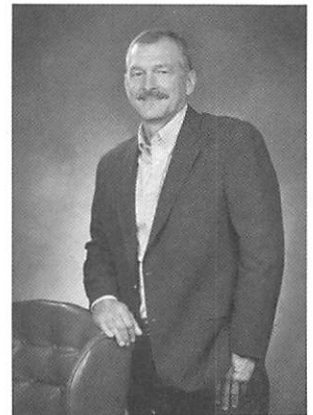
For example, Cal Farley's is considered as part of the Texas "child welfare" system. That is, we take some children in the custody of the state. With that come bureaucratic strings that require constant management. To complicate things, the state is undergoing a complete overhaul of the foster care system. That system is predicated on some assumptions that Cal Farley's doesn't necessarily adhere to. These might include requiring children to go into places like Boys Ranch only if it's close to their home, only under extreme circumstances, and only for a short time.

That differs from us because we accept kids at Boys Ranch from coast to coast, we do not take kids with extreme problems, and we allow them to stay here as long as they need to. Programs like Boys Ranch are more and more rare.

Regarding our business model, the only thing we completely control is our spending (which is a lot for Boys Ranch!) Otherwise, our Foundation moves with the ebb and flow of the economy which is often times volatile. And, while we don't charge for our services or take state or government contract money, we depend on donors who are as impacted by the economy as we are!

Don't get me wrong, I'd rather face our challenges than many of our peer organizations barely making ends meet from year to year. But, we can't be caught flat footed or let off the gas!

So, our New Year will be exciting as we go into a new era of strategic visioning and planning, spending a lot of time understanding the forces that impact our work, and planning how to deal with those forces. Bottom line, we plan to be here for many more New Years to come. Have a good one and have some fun while you're at it!!



<http://calfarley.org>

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Published Quarterly

All submissions and comments should be received NO LATER than March 15 to make it into the 2016 Spring edition of the Alumni Newsletter.

2016 Calendar

Dallas Gathering – February 13
Florida Gathering – April 8-9
DFW Golf – May 14
BR Graduation – May 28
Girlstown – June 11
Rodeo Reunion – Sept 2-4

(See Alumni website for Gathering details)

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