

CAL FARLEY'S Boys Ranch Alumni Association Newsletter

2007 SPRING EDITION

<http://calfarleysboysranchalumni.org>



AMARILLO GATHERING

Big Texan Steak Ranch - May 19, 2007
RSVP Les Saker 806/672-2292

CALIFORNIA GATHERING

Camarillo, CA
June 23-24, 2007

FISHING TOURNAMENT

September 1, 2007

Cal Farley's Boys Ranch
Alumni Association
P.O. Box 9435
Amarillo, Texas 79105

Newsletter Comments or
Submissions
806-322-2645
800-687-3722 x2645

Alumni Aftercare
Kim Reeves
806-322-2531
800-687-3722 x2531

Visit the website for up-to-date news and some awesome pictures of past various events. Also, please notice that there is a new mailing address for the Alumni Association. This new address should help in streamlining the mail process.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Cal Farley's and the Alumni Association are updating our alumni mailing list and we need your help. Since Cal Farley's and the Alumni Association are separate entities, we require your permission for both entities to have access to your personal information. Cal Farley's requires your information to assure you keep receiving the newsletter.

Please send an email giving permission to share your information or fill out the enclosed coupon and return to us in order to help us in this endeavor.

Cheree Gilliam
600 W. 11th Avenue
Amarillo, TX 79101
chereegilliam@calfarley.org
fax: 806/372-6638 attn: Cheree

Visit our website at:

<http://calfarleysboysranchalumni.org>

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Our Mission

The mission of the Cal Farley's Boys Ranch Alumni Association is to provide a professional network of former ranchers who seek to carry on the spirit of family through fellowship, association and support.

Newsletter
Editor: Cheree Gilliam
chereegilliam@calfarley.org

Published quarterly
Cal Farley's
Amarillo, TX



"Letting a wild horse run with a tame herd gradually slows down its gait."

---Cal Farley

Condolences

Our heartfelt prayers go out to the family and friends of **Rodney Arenas** (98). Rodney passed away December 24, 2006. Rodney was laid to rest in Boys Ranch Cemetery on January 12. Please hold the Boys Ranch family and friends of Rodney in your prayers.



Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of **Amber Nichole Hajje** (03). Amber passed away December 29, 2006 in Amarillo. She is survived by a daughter.



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of **Darrah Lee "DL" Fluke** (57). We received a returned enveloped marked "Deceased". The editor regrets there is no other information.



Condolences go out to the families and friends of **Joshua Wayne Powers** (02). Josh passed away December 16, 2006 in Anton, LA. Please remember his family in your prayers.



Bill Abbott (60) passed away November 29, 2006. He was cremated and his ashes were spread at Boys Ranch on Janauary 1, 2007.

Condolences go out to **David Lavender** (94), **James Lavender** (94) and **John Lavender** (95) on the recent passing of their grandmother, **Peggy Sue Roberts Lavender**. Ms. Lavender passed away January 28 in Amarillo. Our prayers are with the Lavender family during this sad time.



Our heartfelt prayers go out to **Steve Phillips** (60) and his wife **Dot** on the death of their granddaughter, Jordan (age 9). Jordan passed away March 18 in Amarillo. Please keep this family in your thoughts and prayers in the coming days.

Our prayers are also extended to **LeRoy Eisenman** (63), **David Eisenman** (64) and **Jessie Eisenman** (68) on the recent passing of their mother, **Ruby Eisenman**. She was preceded in death by another son, **David Eisenman** (64) who passed away February 1992. Ms. Eisenman passed away January 6 in Perryton.

Sympathy is extended to the Boys Ranch families of **Lois Peters**, **Debbie Vaughn** and **John Knudson**. Lois worked in the Town Office for 27 years before retiring in 1995. She passed away February 26. Debbie Vaughn worked in the Town Office for many years. She passed away in February. John was the small livestock coordinator at Boys Ranch from 1997-2003. He passed away March 6. Please remember these families in your prayers.

Alumni News

Kim Sharp (75) and **Dean Sharp** (78) came by the Town Office and signed the Alumni book.

We received emails from **Michael Gregory** (56), **Rachel Manfredi** (98), **Glenn Ferguson** (74), **Ernie McKay** (05), **Jerry Lee Haley** (48) and **Gary Seeberger** (79).

We heard from **TeAta Lehew Gattis**, **Al-easha Labriola** (97) and **David Rattan** (78), **Scott Prior** (86), **Johnny Vaughan** (68), **Delores Higgins-Carpenter** (GT/75) and **Kristine Wamsley** (GT/94). It was nice hearing from them!

Michael Rogers (71) wished his extended family of Boys Ranch a Happy New Year! **Lamont & Frances Waldrip** also wished everyone a great new year! **John Love** passed on that he heard from **Kyle Wilkinson** (79).

The Alumni Association talked with **Tim Jones** (79) and **Tommy Hamilton** (57). **Tom Novak** (73) talked with **Jim Pyle** (84) recently. Jim is set to retire soon from the Navy. **Dirk Graves** (85) heard from **Robert Solano** (86), who has shipped out to Iraq. **Sue Miller** at Boys Ranch passed on to us that **David Silver** (05) called recently. He is currently stationed in Baghdad.

The editor heard from **Jess Vizcaino** (85), **Kyle Humphrey** (81), **Travis Kimbrough** (98), **Marc Ziolkowski** (60) and **Scott Workman** (88). We also talked with **David Tallant** (81) and **Chris McDonald** (91) who dropped by the Town Office.

Congratulations

Robert King (83) contacted us to let us know that he is now A+ Certified. Way to go Robert!

Congratulations to **Crystal Novak** (02) on her graduation from WTAMU. Congratulations also goes out to **Robin Brown** (03) for making the Fall Semester President's List at WTAMU.

Scholarship Applications

Scholarship Applications are being accepted for the Fall 2007 year and the deadline for entries is May 15, 2007. A maximum of five, \$500.00 per semester scholarships will be approved. Applications will be reviewed and approvals completed by July 1, 2007.

Scholarship Policy and Applications are available online. Please complete and mail application to:

Douglas Brady, Chairman
CFBRAA Scholarship Committee
272 N Ward Parkway
Haysville, KS 67060-1449

Applicants may phone 316-522-9018 or email dbrady143@hotmail.com to notify Chairman Brady that an application has been mailed. Applicants will be notified when their application has been received.

Where Are You?

Alycia Graham (99) is looking for **Bill Rigney** (98). **Everette Davis** (68) is trying to contact **Ricky Dean Smith** (68). **Stacey Tipping-Carrete** (97) is looking for **Joe Anderson & Brandy Lynn** (97). **John Hill** (78) is looking for **Tim Patterson** (77). **Dirk Graves** (85) is looking for **Greg Gardner** (85) and **John Palmer** (85). **Gene Bowman** (61) is looking for **Larry Pickford** (62). **Brendan Stephenson** (95) is trying to find **Mitch Loveless** (95). **James Williams** (80) is looking to find **Sean Taylor** (80). **Robert King** (83) is looking for **Monty Ganders** (86) and **Ricky Figures** (83). **Scott Peterson** (95) is looking to find **Larry Jetton** (95) & **Rent Donaldson** (95).

If you have been successful in locating someone or if you have been "found" please let the editor know so she can remove your request off the list.

Get Connected!

Visit the CFBRAA Website at -

www.calfarleysboysranchalumni.org

and click on the link to the *Boys Ranch Family Online Forum*. The forum is a great place to catch up with other alumni and share "war stories" from days at the ranch. Also, visiting the website is a great way to stay connected to alumni activities.

Alumni Forum Online

CFBRAA Standing Committees

Executive Committee

Bill Sarpalius bsarpalius@usadvantage.us

Fianance Committee

Bobby Sarpalius bsarp0604@charter.net

Membership Committee

Scott Carriker scarriker@allnationsfs.com

Annual Meeting Committee

Britton Hammond bhammond@eddideen.com

Scholarship Committee

Doug Brady dbrady143@hotmail.com

Special Needs Committee

Michael Rogers gemrogershsd@earthlink.net

Development Committee

Aaron Alejandro aaronffa@hotmail.com

Board of Directors

Aaron Alejandro (84) Wichita Falls, Texas

Doug Brady (60) Haysville, Kansas

Scott Carriker (78) Houston, Texas **SECRETARY**

Bubba Davis (84) Amarillo, Texas

Britt Hammond (77) Pilot Point, Texas

Gary Hardy (63) Camarillo, California

Tom Maynard (82) Florence, Texas **PRESIDENT**

David Rattan (78) Dallas, Texas

Wyman Owen (53) Bonham, Texas

Michael Rogers (71) Ocala, Florida **V-PRESIDENT**

Bill Sarpalius (67) Stevensville, Maryland

Bobby Sarpalius (67) Hurst, Texas **TREASURER**

Les Saker (89) Amarillo, Texas

David Tallant (81) Amarillo, Texas

Billy Bob Touchstone (86) Dalhart, Texas

Prayer Requests

Ken Hinds (64)

Tamberlyn & Ryan Burrow (95) requests prayers for their unborn baby, Tucker. Please pray for a healthy baby in June!

Mike McVay (77) was in a house explosion on December 15, 2006 in Amarillo. Although he is much better, he has a long way to go. Please pray for a speedy recovery.

All submissions and comments should be directed to the editor no later than June 11 in order to make it into the 2007 SUMMER Edition of the Alumni Newsletter.

Have you Remembered the Alumni Association in Your Will?

For more information, contact the Alumni Association.

The Presidents Corner

Tom Maynard (82)

February 19, marked the 40th year since the passing of Cal Farley, who slipped away in a Sunday morning chapel service conducted by FFA members to commemorate National FFA Week. Bill Sarpalius delivered the message in that service.

The death of Boys Ranch’s founder and the subsequent passing of Mrs. Farley a month later, provided the impetus for the establishment of an alumni association to carry on Mr. and Mrs. Farley’s visionary work of which we are all the beneficiaries. Thus, later that year, a group of ex-ranchers convened and launched the Cal Farley’s Boys Ranch Alumni Association.

Doug Brady is leading a project to write the association’s history—to capture in writing, the players, circumstances and events which gave rise to our organization. It is a project which reminds us that we are all part of a much larger picture and, in fact, part of the Cal and Mimi Farley legacy and the alumni association history.

These landmarks also provide opportunity to reflect on who we are, where we are and where we are going. These are exciting times for your alumni association. I believe that the association is on the cusp of defining itself both in terms of a professional network and as a sort of extended family for those who share the unique distinction of calling Boys Ranch or Girlstown home. We have an organizational infrastructure, policies and procedures, auditable financials, internal controls, a growing membership and resources, all of which are required to forge a strong future. Your association treasurer Bob Sarpalius has been instrumental in creating this framework for growth.

Yet, there is plenty of room for growth and development. Current membership numbers are but a fraction of the some 7,000 young men who passed through the gates of the Ranch. To date, we have not launched an outreach to Girlstown USA alums. A strategic plan to actively engage all alumni in the work of the association is still in early stages of development—as are many of the current initiatives.

Nonetheless, there is reason for optimism as we review updates for this quarter:

Development Committee Lands \$75,000 Gift. The Dallas-based Harold Simmons Foundation has pledged \$75,000 over the next three years to support the operations of the association. Based on the original intent of the proposal, initial monies from this gift will be invested in membership development operations and scholarships. The Simmons gift also fulfilled the scholarship committee’s goal to have \$10,000 available for scholarships this year. The development committee was created this year to develop fundraising and relational strategies and tactics and to take advantage of the unique talents and experiences of its chairman Aaron Alejandro. To date, this is the single largest gift made to the alumni association.

Scholarship Committee is Open for Business. Our alumni members who came through the Cal Farley system—Boys Ranch or Girlstown, USA, are fortunate to have available to them abundant scholarship opportunities. The same cannot be said for Cal and Mimi’s next generation—the sons and daughters of alumni. One of the ways we can help each other is to support a scholarship program for our children. The \$10,000 we have in the scholarship account is modest when compared to the world of scholarship funds and endowments, but it is a start. If we will invest in our children’s future through this fund, we have an opportunity to help leave a significant legacy to future generations—following the example of Mr. and Mrs. Farley. Scholarship applications can be downloaded from the association website at <http://www.calfarleysboysranchalumni.org>. Doug Brady chairs the scholarship committee.

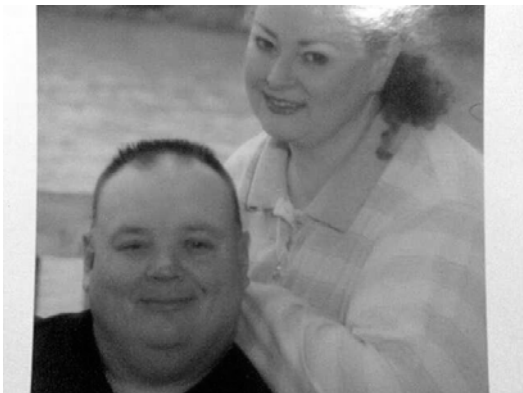
Membership Operations: Dallas Gathering Hits All-Time High Mark, Amarillo Sets Initial Meeting, Second West Coast Gathering Slated for June. One of the membership building strategies launched in 2005-06 was the development of local affiliates. This provides a connection for alumni who cannot make the Labor Day Weekend trip back to Boys Ranch and creates a professional network and support system. The Dallas-Fort Worth Area chapter was the first to garner a provisional charter, and hosted the largest alumni gathering to take place away from Amarillo with more than 100 in attendance. David Rattan is leading our efforts in the DFW area. The West Coast affiliate will host its second gathering at the Gary Hardy home in Camarillo, California June 23. Jess Vizcaino and Gary Hardy are providing leadership for this event. The Panhandle/Amarillo area group was granted a provisional charter by the board of directors in November. Its first organizational meeting is set for Saturday, May 19. Les Saker is taking the lead in this initiative. Scott Carriker chairs the membership committee.

Annual Meeting and Reunion to Make Venue Change. Our association is growing and the annual Labor Day Event is projected to reflect that growth. The association has come to a tentative agreement with the Big Texan Steak Ranch as a host for the reception, general meeting and awards program. While the Big Texan is further east, it offers a larger main venue, lots of atmosphere, additional entertainment options for children, lower room rates and outstanding food options for the post-golf tournament social. Big Texan owner Bobby Lee and his family have long-standing relationships with the Cal Farley family. We believe that this will be a memorable experience for everyone. Britt Hammond chairs the Annual Meeting/Reunion Committee.

Association Continues to Address Needs, Looks to Reach Cemetery Deal with BR. The Cal Farley organization offers to ex-ranchers a plethora of aftercare services. However, some alumni needs simply do not fit the Cal Farley’s organization’s criteria, and in these situations, our association can help and in essence, be the extended family that many of us do not have. Michael Rogers and his committee have addressed a number of situations in which our brothers, due to health issues, were facing the loss of their homes. We are proud to be able to help. We are still working toward a partnership with the Cal Farley’s organization for the upkeep of the Boys Ranch Cemetery, which was originally the brainchild of our alumni association forefathers. Michael Rogers and his committee are also working toward the development of a permanent honor guard system to be present at the interment of alumni brothers and sisters who have passed away.

Distinguished Alumni Recognition Project. This past fall, your association initiated a special project to create what might be termed an “Alumni Hall of Fame,” to recognize the achievements of those Boys Ranchers who went from being “the bottom ten percent of America’s youth,” to become leaders and impact players in their respective communities and chosen professions. Telling the stories of these individuals is intended to serve as an inspiration and an example to these young men and women who currently live at the Ranch. Bill Sarpalius was appointed chairman of this special project which will be a joint project of the Cal Farley’s Organization and your alumni association.

As we reflect on the work of Mr. and Mrs. Farley, we cannot help but consider what we must do to honor them. We honor them by being responsible citizens, effective parents and working to make a difference wherever we have chosen to plant our lives. We honor them by being people of success and integrity in our respective professions and by giving even as they and many others have contributed to rescue us from lives of dysfunction and failure. Your alumni association is an avenue to help carry on Mr. and Mrs. Farley’s legacy. Give what you can, whether it be your time, talents or dollars. It all counts and makes a difference.



Alma & Kyle Humphrey (81)



Scott Workman (88)

2007 Upcoming Events

- Amarillo Gathering
May 19
- California Gathering
June 23-24
-
- BR Prom - May 12
- GT Graduation - May 25
- BR Graduation - May 26
- Cowboy Poetry Gathering
June 14-17
- 63rd Annual Rodeo
Sept 1-2

ALUMNI DONATIONS

A contribution is enclosed in the amount of \$ _____

FOR: ☐ General Fund ☐ Alumni All-Stars ☐ Scholarship
 ☐ Membership Dues (\$20.00)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Mail to: Cal Farley’s Boys Ranch Alumni Association
PO Box 9435, Amarillo, TX 79105

2007 A History Making Year for the CFBRAA

By Aaron Alejandro

The CFBRAA Development Committee is proud to announce a historic year for our association. In addition to the tremendous success of the 2006 Annual Meeting and record breaking fundraising efforts, we are proud to announce the \$75,000 commitment of Mr. Harold Simmons. Mr. Simmons gift becomes the largest contribution given to the CFBRAA. Portions of the gift will be used for membership development, special needs and scholarships.

Mr. Simmons is a Dallas businessman who became familiar with the CFBRAA through Britt Hammond. Britt visited with Mr. Simmons and he requested a proposal from the Development Committee. He honored our request and thus has made an investment in our efforts to grow our association. We appreciate the generosity of Mr. Simmons and others who are helping us reach the strategic goals of the CFBRAA.

Mr. Farley built Boys Ranch on a simple philosophy that there are more people who may be able to give \$2.00 than \$200 dollars. We honor the same philosophy and want everyone to know that each gift placed in our care will be given the greatest level of stewardship. We desire for the association's integrity to always be associated with excellence. If you have not already joined the association, we want to encourage you to do so and take advantage of all of the many opportunities which exist for our members.

We can continue to grow with your support. There are several ways you can help or encourage others around you to support the CFBRAA. The Annual Meeting is a great opportunity for giving and sponsorships. Here's some ways you can help. Feel free to make your commitment now and be recognized in September.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Living the Legacy Golf Tournament Entry | \$55 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Golf Tournament Hole Sponsor | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Golf Tournament Sponsor | \$1,500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Annual Meeting & Reunion Sponsor | \$2,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Alumni Fellowship & Social Sponsor | \$1,500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Family Activities Sponsor | \$1,500 |



We hope you will join us for the 2007 Annual Meeting and activities. If the sponsorships above do not fit with your desired interest of giving, we will be glad to visit with you about unique sponsoring opportunities which benefit the mission of the association. Scholarships and Special Needs funds are also an avenue for your support.

When you are proud of something you want to share it. We are proud of the fundraising efforts of the CFBRAA. If you would like to support the Annual Meeting or another special project of the association, please contact Aaron Alejandro at aaron@calfarleysboysranchalumni.org.

Shared Information Coupon

- ☐ Yes, please share my information with the Alumni Association
☐ No, do not share my information with anyone

Name: _____ Last name at BR/GT: _____

Address: _____ City/St: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Birthdate: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Years at BR/GT _____ Dorms or Homes: _____

All additional information is optional. It will not be shared without your authorization.

Many of my family and friends have asked if I have lost my mind and often I have wondered the same thing. What could I possibly have to offer at nearly 40 years old? A friend of mine who ships out with me wrote the following column for a local hometown paper that he worked for up until this past Sunday. It is exactly the ideas that I have not been able to gather and pass on to family and friends. I submit this to you as a testament to why I am doing what I am doing.

God Bless you all, **Dean Thompson** (87)
(Submitted Feb 2007)

As many of you know, I'm an Army veteran, and the draw of serving my country is too strong. Come Wednesday, I'll raise my hand, sign on the dotted line and put my uniform back on. Don't think I miss the humor in the fact that the Army loves me so much it's letting me come back on Valentine's Day. Since I announced my intention to return to the military, I've answered many questions, most concerning the war in Iraq and the inherent danger in joining the Army now. There's a simple answer, and it isn't meant to be as flippant as it sounds: If I don't go, who will?

If the only time anyone joined the military was during a time of peace, we could never reliably expect them to defend us when that inevitable conflict arose. But there's more to it than some misguided sense of duty. There's an honor in serving in the military that's hard to find in many other professions. That honor is often overshadowed by a media machine that loves to chronicle the tragedies, but sometimes relegates the successes to the back page.

And since my first stint ended in 2001, I've rarely come across people who held as rigidly to values such as loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage as those I knew in the Army. In case you're wondering, those are the Army core values, and I've got them on a card I've carried in my wallet for more than a decade.

My military experience gave me a unique perspective on the fact that my ability to write a column like this one relies on freedom of speech, which isn't free at all. It's been bought and paid for by people who were willing to lay down their lives in order to protect it.

I don't have a death wish, nor do I consider myself some type of hero for my decision to go back in the military. And I can't explain why I'm one of those people willing to stand up and defend the rights guaranteed for all of us in the Constitution.

The bottom line is I'm a soldier at heart, and it's just taken me a little while to reach that realization. There's a certain honor in being a soldier, in having the integrity to do the right thing even when there's no one there to witness it.

My family supports my desire and has become as excited as I am at the prospect of seeing their husband and father roll back into being a soldier. You don't have to be a soldier, airman or sailor to do your part, and I respect the fact that military service isn't right for everyone. But it is for me.

And, while I'll miss the friends I've made here and the challenges we've faced together, I'm off again to do what many can't or won't. I won't do it for the glory. I'll do it for the soldier standing next to me, whose back I'll always have and whose support I can always rely on.

So as I prepare to defend my country once again, I'll remember the final part of the soldier's Code of Conduct, which reads: I will never forget that I am an American, fighting for freedom, responsible for my actions and dedicated to the principles which made my country free. I will trust in my God and in the United States of America.

Thanks for the memories and, as Marine Lance Cpl. Tim Craft wrote down for a reporter during a 1968 siege at a small base in Khe Sanh, Vietnam, "For those that will fight for it ... FREEDOM ... has a flavor the protected shall never know."