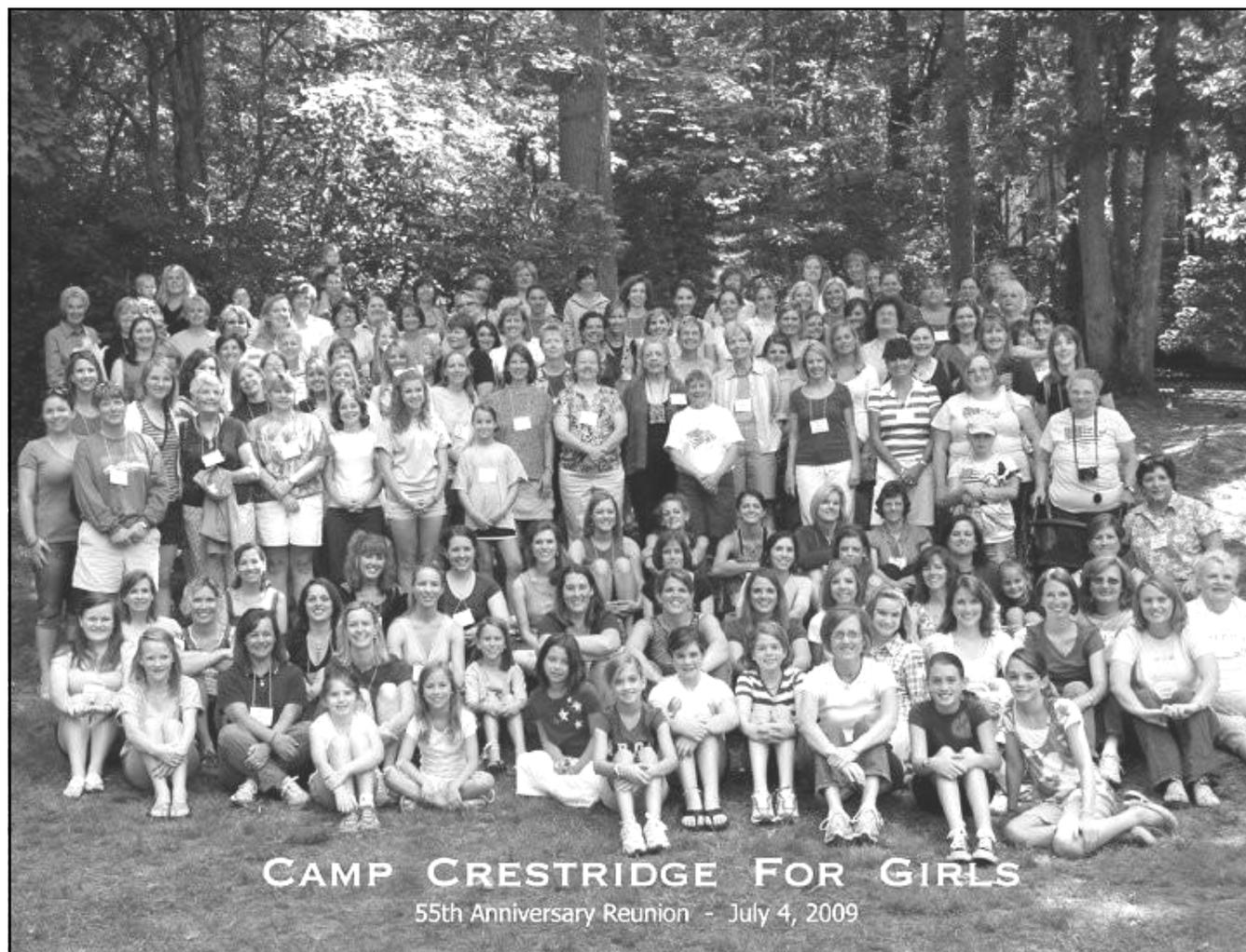


# CAMP CRESTRIDGE ALUMNAE AND FRIENDS

P.O. Box 22038 ♦ Lexington, KY 40522-2038  
[www.ridgecrestcamps.com/girls/alumnae](http://www.ridgecrestcamps.com/girls/alumnae) ♦ [alumnae@windstream.net](mailto:alumnae@windstream.net)

## Can you identify these Crestridgers?



Our 55th Summer Homecoming was a great success, with more than 250 in attendance. The photo above is of camp alums from many eras as well as current Crestridgers.



### Alumnae Board

Johnnie Armstrong, *ex officio*  
 Ruth Burkett  
 Susan Cheatham  
 Anja Aloia Cleveland  
 Kara Belcher Cooley  
 Ana Quattlebaum Gibbs

Whitney Lemarr  
 Susan McFerrin Nielsen  
 Kappi Brown Pierce  
 Cara Pollard, *secretary*  
 Marva Rawlings, *ex officio*

Ramey Driggers Schutz  
 Karen Stitt  
 Dara Trotter  
 Lisa Rudolph Turner, *president*  
 Susan Bridger Waggener,  
*treasurer, ex officio*

# Here's the story of the 55th Summer Reunion in pictures:



*This special quilt, using village colors and inscribed with titles of favorite songs, was made in memory of Judy MacMillan by Sandy Brown Lovette and brought \$600 at the auction. Then it was donated to the CCAF Museum.*



*Some of camp's favorite men: Ron Springs, camps director, left; Hal Hill, Life-Way national camps director, middle; and Rick Johnson, former camps director.*



*Eager team members of all ages headed down the war-path as the sock war began.*



*An inspiring campfire service led by Johnnie Armstrong ended the reunion.*



*During the chapel service, Johnnie honored Marva Rawlings, left, and Janie Belue, right, for their many years of dedication and service to Crestridge.*



*Auctioneer Susan Cheatham, right, and helper Anja Aloia Cleveland kept the action moving as the crowd cheered a winning bid. The auction raised nearly \$23,000 that was designated for annual scholarships, the Scholarship Endowment Fund, and Special Projects for the multi-purpose building.*



*At the end of the chapel service, Johnnie invited all the children to sit on the platform with her. She gave them each a candle and they led the group out of the chapel to the waterfront, where a brief flag ceremony commemorated the 4th of July.*

# Thinking BIG

by Lisa Rudolph Turner, CCAF president

Because we don't know the meaning of "can't", "impossible" and "no way," CCAF has decided to tackle a much-needed project for camp that will take God-sized prayers and funds to complete – a **multi-purpose building** that will occupy the current store site, across from the infirmary. The main floor will be devoted to canteen and clothing sales. The second floor is slated to house the CCAF museum, currently located on the top floor of the lodge. The precious and fragile items that display our unique history are in danger of rapid decay because that building is not weatherproof. It, too, is running out of space. The basement area of the building will be a storage area for

sports equipment used during activities on the green.

Camp would prefer that the building have a similar look to the new Bear Trap (see photo below) that fits so well with the architecture of camp. We have been given a construction estimate of \$140,000. Unfortunately, LifeWay cannot contribute funds to this project since they are in the midst of paying for new cabins for both camps.

Therefore, it is with humble hearts and ambitious minds that we look to our membership for financial support. To date, we have raised just over \$40,000. That may not sound like a lot, but this idea is less than a year old. We know that God can move

mountains, and we are looking to Him to do just that as we attempt to complete the race he has laid before us.

Looking around at the pavilion, the Chip/Chick playground, the Chapel expansion, the crafts deck, the Blob platform and other CCAF projects, you will see the power of prayer and of giving hearts.

Join us in praying for the funds needed to begin construction. No contribution is too small. Step back and watch what God can do through us to reach girls for years to come. Donations can be mailed in or made through PayPal on our website, [www.ridgecrestcamps.com/girls/alumnae](http://www.ridgecrestcamps.com/girls/alumnae).

## Record-Breaking Summer

by Sharon Aylestock, Assistant Camps Director

Summer 2009 was historic. Last fall, with the help of LifeWay, we added five camper cabins, one staff cabin and a new Bear Trap, and expanded the Dining Hall. Our maximum number of campers is now 250! We came very close to being full a couple sessions – 248 during 1B! God truly blessed our registration numbers to fill the extra space. More than just adding space for the new campers, we had to add new skills, get more tables/chairs, beds, think about extra parking spaces for opening/closing days, and much more. By the responses on our parent and camper surveys, this was a life-changing summer!

The new buildings were very beneficial. Feedback on the five new cabins has given us ideas on how to better renovate the rest of the cabins this year. The campers enjoyed the extra bathroom space and covered decks.

There was actually space enough to walk between the tables in the Dining Hall this summer, and more room to decorate and carry out evening activities. You may have heard that we even had a camp-wide food fight! It only lasted a couple minutes, so it didn't get out of hand! The extra porch on the Dining Hall allowed more space for skills and provided a covered area where girls had their quiet times in the morning.

The Bear Trap was a hit this summer, from the extra decks and rocking chairs to a larger Staff Lounge, to the new offices and reception area. Having the offices and the phones in the Bear Trap proved to be more efficient. It was very relaxing to sit in a rocking chair with the breeze coming through, watching the campers as they went to their next skill or ran around with socks flying in the air!

Thank you all for your continued prayer and support through this time of transition as we set camp up for another 55 years!



The 2009 staff loved the new Bear Trap, especially the staff lounge on the second floor.



The new cabins have deep, covered front porches.

## *A challenge in memory of a camper*

Sadly, a 13-year-old Crestridger lost her life Aug. 2nd as a result of a church bus crash in Mississippi. Maggie Lee Henson, who was from Louisiana, attended camp session 1-A this summer.

In a letter to the CCAF Board, Larry and Sallie Driggers remembered Maggie Lee: "We met Maggie Lee and her mother, Jin, on opening day at Crestridge 1-A, 2009. We know her father, John, from his years at Ridgecrest. Sallie was so impressed with Maggie Lee and her sweet spirit that she encouraged her to sign up for choir. I believe this was Maggie Lee's first year at Crestridge and she was so excited to see and do everything. As we drove home after camp opening weekend, Sallie shared with me how nice it was to see John again and to meet Maggie Lee."

The Driggers have given \$500 to start an endowed scholarship in Maggie's name and are offering to match all further contributions by 50% up to the \$10,000 needed. That means donations totaling \$4,750 from alumnae and friends are needed to complete our third named scholarship.

So far, we have two named scholarships. The first was given by Abbott and Eddie Lou Garvin in honor of their daughter, Sallie Driggers, and her camp friend Willa Stevenson McGimsey. The second named scholarship, in memory of Judy MacMillan, was completed this summer with gifts from alums and friends as well as a matching grant from Judy's brother Tim MacMillan.

If you wish to honor the life of Maggie Lee Henson in this manner, please send your donation to PO Box 22038, Lexington, KY 40522-2038, or donate through PayPal from our website, [www.ridgecrestcamps.com/girls/alumnae](http://www.ridgecrestcamps.com/girls/alumnae).

## *Maintain the Memories*

*by Whitney Lemarr*

I and nearly 70 other former Crestridgers and family members spent the Memorial Day weekend of 2009 hauling mulch, spreading mulch, raking leaves, cleaning, painting, organizing, straightening (did I mention mulching?!) and in general doing the type of manual labor I loathe doing 99% of the year. And as always, it was one of the best weekends of my year! Maintain the Memories weekend (MTM) is the annual mini-reunion and work weekend organized by Camp Crestridge Alumnae & Friends. I first found out about MTM weekend when looking at the alumnae website a few years ago and I was impressed by what a hands-on way it was to give something back to camp in return for all the blessings God had given me through camp. My first MTM summer it seems there were only 20-30 alumni and friends in camp – and this means husbands, kids, cousins, brothers, sisters and anyone who heard you talk about camp until they

felt like they'd spent as much time there as you had and just finally had to see the place) – but over the years, our numbers have grown and a record-breaking number of people came out for this year's MTM.

The weather this year was blessedly clear Saturday, which is our heavy work day. On Friday evening, we enjoyed a cookout and visiting at camp. After Saturday's breakfast at the conference center, we headed to camp for Johnnie to organize our motley crew into efficient working machines! The list of projects this year was especially ambitious in light of the new cabins, brand new Bear Trap (which is wonderful, though the old one will always have my heart), and the upcoming 55<sup>th</sup> Summer Reunion. We worked hard but as always, I was impressed by what a difference love makes in our motivations. What some would describe as "hard labor" is a labor of love at camp. It's always interesting to return home and rave

to my friends and colleagues at work about my amazing weekend doing physical labor for free!! Saturday night we enjoyed our customary campfire (in the Pavilion thanks to rain) and s'mores!! Sunday morning we had a short worship service and wrapped up the last few odds and ends before we left to resume our full-time lives.

I've been coming to MTM weekend for three years now and look forward to it almost the same way I used to look forward to the first day of camp all those years ago! It is an amazing weekend and a blessing in the lives of all who attend. I hope after reading this, I'll see a few new faces next May.

*Maintain the  
Memories 2010  
May 29-31*

# THE GRAPEVINE

by Anja Aloia Cleveland

Greetings from the Grapevine!

The vine has been a little unfruitful recently. I don't have too much juicy information to share with you this newsletter. I encourage each of you to send in a brief update on you and your life! Fellow Crestridgers love to read about their friends and reminisce about their days together at camp. You never know, you may be working in a big corporation somewhere and there is another Crestridger in the building that you haven't met. Let me hear about your family, your work, or anything else! Send me an e-mail at [calumnae@windstream.net](mailto:calumnae@windstream.net).

**Jennifer Whatley Govea** lost her mother to colon cancer at age 63 in April 2008. But on a happier note, she and her husband welcomed their first child, David Adams Govea, on Nov. 18, 2008. Jennifer has been married to Enrique for eight years and they work together from their Alpharetta, Ga., home running their language services business. Currently they work with Christian organizations in 16 languages and do many translations for the North American Mission Board and North Point Ministries. Jennifer was a camper from 1984-92 and a JET in 1993.

**Carrie Tillis** has released a new album, *Roundtrip*. Check out her website at [www.carrietillis.com](http://www.carrietillis.com), where you can order her CDs. She also has a

great Christmas CD titled *Just a Little Gift. O Holy Night* is out of this world, and she received a standing ovation for it during the Tillis Family Christmas production. She has continued to perform in shows including *Pump Boys and Dinettes* in Michigan and *Stand By Your Man: The Tammy Wynette Story* in Pittsburgh, Pa., and soloing with the Meridian (Miss.) Symphony Orchestra.

**Nancy Britt Roberson** went to be with the Lord on July 27, 2009. She was a former Belle and Queen Crester back in the '70s. Please pray for her family and especially her two daughters, Julie and Holly. Also please remember **Birdie Bell**, whose sister, Marie, died in July.

**Laurielle Bishop** is teaching English as a foreign language to elementary school kids in Daegu, South Korea. She has been there since December 2008 and, after a short trip home to Ohio this December, plans to return for another year. She says it has been challenging, since she does not speak Korean. However, it has been an amazing experience working with the children and learning the culture.

Former camper **Laura Caleros Torres** of Los Robles, Mexico, is delighted to be able to get in touch with Crestridgers again through our website directory. One of her students' sisters

went to camp this summer, which rekindled Laura's memories of camp. She is working as Chair of Business Administration and director of the Entrepreneurship Center for a private university called Universidad Anáhuac México Sur, and is in a doctoral program in business administration. She is an activist in animal protection, and in her free time rescues pets and raises funds for various pet aid organizations. She and her husband have a dog named Niña.

**Cara Pollard** is a Curriculum Coach for Buncombe County Schools, a two-year position funded by federal stimulus money. She will serve two schools as a resource for teachers. Cara recently returned from her third mission trip to Ecuador, where she took a three-day trip to Misahualli in the jungle. She did some hiking, fed the monkeys in town, and swam in Rio Napo, which leads to the Amazon River.

If you need to know your login and password to enter the "private" section of our website where you can access the directory, e-mail us at [calumnae@windstream.net](mailto:calumnae@windstream.net) or write us, and we'll let you know. And please encourage your camp friends to get on the directory. They can do that on the website or by e-mailing us.

*Get your Crestridge merchandise today!!*

*CCAF merchandise makes wonderful Christmas gifts!!*

We have something you can't get at a store – Crestridge merchandise. Do you remember the story we shared last year about the lady carrying her Crestridge coffee mug into the break room at work, and a co-worker saw it and said she was a Crestridger too? What a great way to find a fellow Crestridger in your area. Wear it or carry it like a proud Crestridger!

We have everything from simple croc charms and carabiner clips (great keychains for moms to clip to their pants at the park) to a limited stock of 14k gold Crestridge emblem charms that are being sold at cost. There were only 50 made. Will you be one of the lucky 50 to own one before they sell out? Be sure to check out our new 55<sup>th</sup> Summer T-shirt – "The Best Summers of Your Life." The design incorporates special places in camp. We won't be reordering many of these items once they are sold out, so get your order in now!

If you have suggestions for merchandise you would purchase, please let us know at [calumnae@windstream.net](mailto:calumnae@windstream.net). We are always looking for new things to add to our line.

**Special now thru December:** Many prices have been reduced online. Several items are limited quantity. Free shipping on an order of \$25 or more. Click on "Store" on our home page at [www.ridgecrestcamps.com/girls/alumnae](http://www.ridgecrestcamps.com/girls/alumnae).

## Willing to work for CCAF?

Alumnae or friends interested in serving on the CCAF Board should contact the board president, Lisa Turner, at [blsmturn@bellsouth.net](mailto:blsmturn@bellsouth.net). Board members are expected to attend two meetings a year. The May meeting is held at camp during Maintain the Memories, and the fall meeting is in October in northern Alabama. Travel expenses are tax-deductible. Come work with us and see what we are all about!

## Camp Crestridge Stepping Stone Path

"... and each must make, ere life has flown,  
a stumbling block or a stepping stone."

We will be constructing a stepping stone pathway from the back porch of the Chapel to the campfire area. When completed, this path will be an attractive memory walk.

Inscribed stones may be purchased to honor or remember friends of Camp Crestridge. Proceeds from this endeavor will be split evenly between our Scholarship Endowment Fund and Multi-Purpose Building Fund.

If you would like to order a stepping stone, please fill out the form below and return it with your check to CCAF, PO Box 22038, Lexington KY 40522-2038.

Purchaser's name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Check stone size:	_____ Small (8x10")	1 line of text	\$100
	_____ Medium (11-12")	2 lines of text	\$125
	_____ Large (13-14")	3 lines of text	\$150

Text to be inscribed on stone (please PRINT legibly):  
(size of font varies by length of line)

First line: \_\_\_\_\_

Second line: \_\_\_\_\_

Third line: \_\_\_\_\_



**Camp Crestridge Alumnae and Friends**

P.O. Box 22038

Lexington, KY 40522-2038



*With my feet on the ground and my heart attuned, I shall reach for the stars.*