

CAP Connection

A newsletter for volunteer alumni of the Christian Appalachian Project

Spring 2010



A very special request to our CAP family for an extraordinary project

Dear CAP Alum,

As former CAP volunteers who have had the opportunity to continue our service in Kentucky, we have witnessed a lot of changes in volunteer life over the years. However, there has always been one constant. Time and time again, we have heard volunteers point to their community as a highlight of their time with CAP. Living in intentional Christian community truly is a unique and enriching experience that—outside of joining a professed religious community—is very difficult, if not impossible, to replicate once we leave CAP. Because CAP alumni know better than anyone else the value of community living for our volunteers, we are asking for your help with an exciting new project.



For the past two and half years, our four McCreary County volunteers have lived in a two-bedroom trailer, and like true volunteers, they have loved making their tiny house a home. But the time has come to build a new volunteer house that will double the number of volunteers serving in McCreary County. A new McCreary House will mean more volunteers for the Eagle Community Center, the return of Elderly Services to McCreary County and the opportunity for generations of volunteers to make a lasting impact on Appala-

chia and as you remember, be changed themselves in the process. We have been fortunate to receive a generous matching grant from the James Graham Brown Foundation in Louisville, but we must raise a significant amount of funding ourselves to make the volunteer house a reality.

Your greatest gift to CAP is and always will be your service to Appalachia, and your extraordinary commitment to this region and its people. Now we would like to ask you to consider making the McCreary House truly a gift from past volunteers to future volunteers. Whether you have the means to give \$25, \$50 or even \$100 or more, what's important is not what you're able to give, but your participation in this unique opportunity. Your prayers and financial gift today will extend your gift of service to the families of Appalachia through future volunteers for years to come, thus allowing these new volunteers to know the blessing that you experienced while here in Appalachia.



On behalf of the volunteers who will live in this house, continue your service and enhance the image of Christ you left in the mountains, thank you.

Peace,

Kathy Kluesener, '73-'80; Kiara Klister West, '00-'02; Casey Sterr, '86-'87; Amy Schill, '03-'05; Jen Eich, '01-'03; Mike Loiacono, '97-'99; Ken Stuber, '90-'92; Carolyn Lindsey, '85-'86; Clare Kaiser Kincaid, '96-'98; Ross and Sarah (Fackender), '07-'08, Peters; Kathleen Ford Leavell, '76-'78; Randy and Rita Beckham, '07; Kevin Black, '01; Beth Dotson Brown, '90-'91.

From Across the Mountains

Kim (Otto) Kennedy, '96 – '98, and her husband Mike welcomed daughter Karalynn Natalie Kennedy into the world October 25 at 8 pounds 11 ounces and 21 inches. Kim says that she began labor at church during an infant baptism. "Kara really is an Irish lass with the red hair to show it and her personality is really beginning to emerge, including big belly laughs," Kim writes. Kim misses her former participants, housemates and co-workers in Kentucky and hopes to return for a visit.



Kim and Karalynn

Janet Ryan, '97, professed her first vows with the Sisters of St. Francis in Clinton, Iowa this past July. She writes that it was a wonderful weekend that included several family members as well as **Barb Delmonico, '89-'90**. Janet has been living in St. Louis and helping to organize a L'Arche community.

Daniel Chauncy, wrote in about the '98-'99 Rockcastle House reunion, which they

called Rocky X. "We are proud to say that we have not missed a year for a reunion since we shared an amazing and life-changing year together," he reported. This time they met in October at the Breaks Interstate Park in Kentucky and Virginia for a weekend of camping, encouragement, prayer and adventure. "A bear came to our site to take Deb's place! It ended up being one of Jim and Rachel's last weekends as just the two of them, since the following month they adopted their first child, Sarah! We are so happy for them!"

Garrett Feliciano, '99-'01 married Meghan Marrinan in August, 2008. The two met while doing mission work in Tanzania, which Garrett writes was a progression from his experience at CAP. Other CAP Alumni that were able to celebrate with them were Tyson and **Darcy (Schmidt) Burke (99'-00')**,

Christine (Penne) Schmidtke ('99-01'), **Betsy (Rakowski) Cook (99'-00')**, **Jim and Rachel (Sapp) Steingass (98'-99')**, **Rebecca (Micek) Maciej (00'-01')**, and



(Top) Holding their hands up for 10 years: Dan Chauncy, Ann Black (Sandoff), Rachel Steingass (Sapp), Maggie Chauncy (3), Beth Chauncy, Corianna



Chauncy (5), Angie Woody (Carter), and Jim Steingass. (Above) Jim and Rachel with baby Sarah!

Kevin, '95 - '98 and '00 - '01, and **Sue (Primus) Feliciano, '97 - '98 and '00 - '01**. "Unfortunately we don't have a picture of all the CAP friends and family together but we do appreciate the love and support from the friendships made through my CAP experience. We're so happy that so many were able to come."



Linda Ryan-Nicklas, Rose Smith, Peg O'Brien, Janet Ryan and Barb Delmonico.



Garrett and Meghan Feliciano



Sarah (Fackender) Peters, '06, '07-'08, and Ross Peters, '07-'08, welcomed baby girl Grayson Ann into their family on February 18. She weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces as 21½ inches long. The family lives in Berea and Ross continues to work for CAP.

Kristie (Giesting) Rancanelli, summer 2004, and her husband John are the proud parents of identical twins, James and Luke. They were born January 5, 2010.



The family lives in Columbus, Ind.

Friendships erased the cold of a January day in Berea when four former volunteers reunited with Kentucky friends at one of their favorite eateries. The group included: **Tammy Parsons '09, Carla (Durand) Demarais '90 - '91, Kathleen Leavell '76 - '78, Julie (Williams) LeBrun '88 - '87, Kathy Kluesener '73 - '80, Kathy (Watkins) Causey '91 - '93, Betsy (Skeffington) Towle, '91 - '93.**

Our Condolences



Caption: Marion, Shirley and Kevin Black joined together at WorkFest.

We extend our deep love and sympathy to the family of **Marion Black**, who spent many years volunteering with us at WorkFest with his wife **Shirley** and son, long term volunteer **Kevin Black '96-98**. We offer our deep love and sympathy to Marion's family as they mourn his loss.

Laura LeCompte continues a full circle of service as a volunteer

It was a cold afternoon in March when Laura LeCompte first arrived at Camp Andrew Jackson with her classmates from St. Xavier College in Chicago, eager to 'get to work' repairing homes for the people in eastern Kentucky. She hoped she had made the right decision, as she thought of several of her classmates lying on sunny beaches.



As so many WorkFest students discover, Laura soon

knew that there was far more to receive from these families in the mountains than she had to give, and she left at the end of the week knowing that this couldn't be the last of her love affair with the region.

She returned the following year, and the year after that, until after graduation when she decided to apply to be a long term volunteer, serving in our housing and family advocacy programs.

Now, back in Chicago, Laura is the Campus Min-

ister at the University of Chicago where she spends most of her days teaching and counseling students, except for one week every spring, when she returns to the hills of Kentucky with her students so that they can begin their own Circles of Service.



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CAP names new president

We are excited to share with you that Guy Adams, a former CAP employee, was named the new President and Chief Executive Officer of the organization in March. Guy has an extensive background with nonprofit organizations and held leadership roles at colleges, like Lindsey Wilson in Columbia, Kentucky. He is also a Berea College graduate and served as Assistant Director of Development for CAP from 1982 – 1985.

“Having begun my non-profit leadership career with Christian Appalachian Project in 1982, it is both exciting and humbling to rejoin CAP,” Guy said following the announcement. “With the continued good work of our committed employees and volunteers, along with the generous support of donors across America, we will work to advance CAP’s mission to serve



people in need in Appalachia.”

Former volunteer Randy Beckham, who had been serving as president in an interim capacity, moves to the position of chief operating officer, over Human Service Missions, Accounting, Human Resource, Economic Development and Volunteer Departments. He looks forward to working with Guy to help CAP reach the next level of organizational excellence.

Thank you

We would like to thank all of our alums who returned to help us make WorkFest successful once again this year. In addition, we’re grateful for assistance from the following who represented and promoted CAP at recent volunteer fairs:

Stephanie Linder, ‘05-‘06
Amblyn Allen, ‘05-‘07
Joe Svoboda, ‘03-‘04
Hope Christensen, ‘04,
Camp AJ ‘06
Rachel Steingass, ‘97-‘99
Jackie Posek, Summer ‘09,
WorkFest ‘08-‘10

Send us your news, message, memories or prayer requests

Please send us any message you would like to share in an upcoming edition of the CAP Connection to: Volunteer Program, 4192 North Wilderness Rd., Mt. Vernon, KY 40456 or volunteer@chrisapp.org.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Street address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Years you volunteered: _____ E-mail: _____

Your message:

CAP Connection is published quarterly by the CAP Volunteer Program. If you have news to share or story ideas to suggest, please send them to one of the following:

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