

ALABAMA CAMPERS ON MISSION

JUNE 2019 NEWSLETTER



THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

What a busy winter and spring we have had! You have been serving our Lord in many places in several different states. I know you received a blessing for your service. Thank you for being a part of all the activity.

We enjoyed a great Spring Rally April 4 and 5 at the National Peanut Festival Fairgrounds in Dothan. Thank you, Larry and Peggy Searcy, for a great program. If you were not there, we missed you.

Several items were on the agenda for the Executive Board/Directors' Meeting at the rally in April. I want to update you on a few of those items.

At the Fall Rally 2018, the Executive Committee recognized that the Bylaws were outdated and needed to be revised. The membership approved. The Revision Committee, consisting of Ron McMonagle, Chairman, John Baughman, Terry Baughman, Joyce Godwin and Nora Thompson, went to work on the revision and presented their final draft for approval to the Executive Committee/Board of Directors' meeting in April. The next step in this process is for you, the membership, to read the changes in the Bylaws and be ready to approve or reject the new edition at a called, quick business meeting for voting purposes after the Christmas Banquet on December 6. If you need a copy of the revised Bylaws, please let John Baughman know and he will mail you a copy.

For some time we have discussed moving to one state-wide rally per year. The revised Bylaws will allow for that change. As a result, there will be no Fall Rally this year. The state-wide rally will be April 2 – 3, 2020 at the Gunter Hill Corps of Engineers Campground near Montgomery. More information will be sent to you as the plans progress.

As the age of our membership increases roofing work becomes more dangerous. Your Executive Committee has voted that we will have the proper safety equipment before we allow any of our men on a roof. This may be in the form of safety harnesses or proper rental equipment. Vice President Walt Miller has volunteered to look into this issue to learn the proper safety equipment available that will serve our needs.

The new Nominating Committee for this term consists of Larry Searcy, Chairman, Vickie Stevens, and Dave Gaines. Please prayerfully consider serving as an officer if you are asked. To have a great organization, we must have willing officers. The work is not hard but does take a little extra time.

This year the Christmas gift cards will be given to Raleigh's Place, a home for foster children in Clanton. Visa, MasterCard, or Walmart cards would be appropriate and very much appreciated.

Circumstances, problems, or illnesses may seem to overwhelm us sometimes. Remember that when trouble comes the God of all comfort is able to carry us through our darkest moments and deepest fears. He promises that one day He Himself will wipe away every tear from our eyes. (Rev. 21:4)

Blessings, AS WE GO,

Nora Thompson

V P NOTES

I am sure that we all know how it feels to be used. Back when I was working for a paycheck, I felt that way when a boss would ask me to do something personal for him, that was not even close to my job description. I often did it anyway, but I felt used. Or even working in a church, when somebody starts doing something then quits when it is half done, we end up cleaning up somebody else's mess and we feel used.

When God asks us to do something, we are also being used, but that is a good kind of being used. Yes, God may ask us to do something that we think is not in our "Christian job description." The big difference is that when God asks us to do a task, our only response must be, "Yes, Lord," and then do it to the very best of our capability.

When God asks us to do something, sometimes what He asks us to do may seem to well-beyond what we think is within our capability. We shy away because we don't want to fail or look bad in front of our friends. We all fall short of the glory of God. We are human and we are never going to be perfect. But too many times we don't even make an effort because we have a fear of failure and that is the worst failure of all. Regardless of what He asks us to do, He will always give us the knowledge to do it and do it well.

Prayer is powerful. Prayer is our direct access to God's library of knowledge and to God's endless power source. Praying is NEVER the wrong thing to do. And He will ALWAYS help us solve a problem or answer a challenge or finish a task if HE has given us that task.

At our age, He will also give us the strength and the energy to do His work. God is our second wind. He is our burst of new energy. I may occasionally need some ibuprofen at the end of the day, but that's OK, too. You and I may have physical limitations, but with exceptions, continuing to work is the best preparation for being able to do more work.

I am a firm believer that working with Campers on Mission is a way of letting God use us in ever new and more exciting ways. Frequently we are asked to do things that we have never done before. These new things can be difficult things, but I enjoy learning to do new things.

It is also exciting to me to know that we are an answer to someone's prayer. Someone, or maybe a church full of people, may have been praying for months for somebody like you and me to show up with a hammer in hand. The feeling is almost indescribable when an elderly lady or gentleman gives me a hug for the work we were doing. Prayer is powerful, and sometimes WE are the answer to someone's prayer. So, we ARE being used. We are being used by God.

Walt Miller

PROJECT HAPPENINGS

SHOCCO SPRINGS, APRIL 8 – 19, 2019 – Danny & Vickie Stevens, Project Leaders

The weather was much improved from the extremely hot weather we experienced in September. We had a total of 44 members who worked this project over the nine-day period. One of our new COM couples, Peter and Connie Kolodziej joined us the second week. This was their first project. The team built five cedar pavilions around campus, constructed a wall and installed two windows at Residence 6. At Twin Lodge, six doors were removed, and a storage area was built behind the kitchen area. At Mary Essie Stevens, bi-fold doors were removed, and solid closet doors installed, and outside lighting was installed. At Crestview, a closet was added over the hot water closet and stairs removed. Blanket and towel racks and new lighting was installed at Shocco Inn.



At Oak Ridge, 27 sink faucets were installed. At Paint Ball area, bag and towel hooks were built and installed. Several ladies made walker bags for nursing home and rehab center. Small zipper purses and crosses were made for Peanut Festival. Sheets and towels were mended. Some of the ladies cleaned chairs in



the Chapel and cleaned windows and air conditioners at Oak Ridge. Two ladies worked in the Admin Office and several worked in the Book Store and Snack Bar. Several ladies painted and stained and of course got to waterproof Wet Willy. Several helped put bed pads on and take comforters

off in preparation for Primary Consumers. Laundry always needs help! It was a great project and very productive!



**COFFEE BAPTIST – THE VINEYARD – APRIL 8 – 19, 2019 – Ron and Earnie
McMonagle, Project Leaders**



22 ALCOM members were involved in this year's project at The Vineyard. Our task this year was to construct a 1500 square foot recreational center. We did get it dried in and when it is finished it will become a game room with wireless computer games, pool table, tennis table, and several other types of entertainment equipment. The building became a real challenge due to the weather and the remote location. It was questionable whether we would get it dried in within the two weeks we were there. The crew went to work and got the job done. We did several other small indoor projects on the rainy days. We ripped up the floor in the kitchen of a staff house and repaired a



water leak and replaced the floor with new vinyl. We also replaced flooring in one of the mission houses and did some plumbing work at the director's house. While the men were hard at work on the Rec Center, one of the ladies led the charge on the commercial kitchen. She and several other ladies de-grimed the

stove, griddle, and other areas in the kitchen. As a result of her determination and leadership, Rita Gaines was presented a framed certificate recognizing her as an official “Grime Buster”. Thanks to the team the stove now looks like new! Once again, a fun project with great fellowship. We look forward to 2020!

SPRING RALLY – NATIONAL PEANUT FESTIVAL – APRIL 4 – 6, 2019

Larry & Peggy Searcy, Project Leaders



Thanks to Larry & Peggy Searcy for another great Spring Rally. Members of the NPF Board of Directors presented President Nora Thompson and Project Leader Ken Folmar with a donation in appreciation for work that ALCOM does at the National Peanut festival each November.

**CAMP BALDWIN – PHASE 2 – April 22 – May 11, 2019 – Ron and Earnie
McMonagle, Project Leaders**



The Lord once again provided an opportunity for Campers on Mission to meet the needs of Camp Baldwin in Elberta, Alabama. Camp Baldwin has been growing each year in the number of adults and children using the facilities. As a result, more staff is required and family housing for the staff. Last year COM built a staff house for the facility maintenance coordinator and his family. This year we built a house for the new assistant director and his family, Bradley and Meg Rogers. The ladies kept the sewing machines running and between each dress they would run out and help with the painting on the job. On the last day, as we were cleaning up the house, Bradley and Meg asked if they could take a group picture

of our COM group. After the picture, they blessed us with sincere thanks and wishes for our future. We were all touched and felt that “We are blessed as much or more than the congregations or groups that we do the work for.” The building project went well, and the weather was beautiful. We did have one incident that could have been serious, but the Lord was providing for our safety. One of our brothers lost his footing and slid off the roof. Fortunately, he was not seriously hurt. As a result of this accident our Vice President has volunteered to research proper safety equipment for us to ensure that we do not have an incident like this again. For the remainder of the project, our project team had a lot of fellowship time and laughs. We have a visit from a so-called OSHA representative, who also said she was a union rep, who attempted to slow down our progress! Management prevailed and proved that she was a fraud and work continued!!! We all had fun and lots of pranks. (Someone put Roger & June’s RV in a garage sale, and someone put Ron’s truck on the market!!!) Looking forward to our next project together!



MARSHALL ASSOCIATION BAPTIST CAMP PROJECT – MAY 13 -25, 2019

Junior and Nancy Stephens, Project Leaders



Camp MACOBA is one of those places that ALCOM teams look forward to working. This year's team consists of 26 volunteers. Some of the projects the men will be working on include adding a deck on a cabin, renovating a bath house, and pruning

trees. The ladies will be cleaning, painting, and planting flowers and shrubs. The local churches will be providing meals for our group and some of our volunteers are local folks who just showed up to help! We look forward to what the Lord will accomplish through this group of willing volunteers.



Some of the men are ready to begin working on the deck!



Four of the ladies are ready to get the needed cleaning done to ready the camp for those coming this summer!



WOMEN'S CORNER

PINEAPPLE CREAM CAKE

2 cups sugar	2 tsp. vanilla extract
2 cups all-purpose flour	2 eggs
2 tsp. baking soda	1/2 cup chopped pecans
1 (20 oz.) can crushed pineapple with juice	

Stir together all ingredients in a large bowl. Pour into a 9x13 inch baking dish that has been sprayed with cooking spray. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes. Allow to cool before adding frosting.

FROSTING:

1 8 oz. package cream cheese	½ stick butter	1/4 tsp. salt
1 3/4 cup confectioners' sugar	2 tsps. Vanilla	

Mix together cream cheese and butter. Add sugar, vanilla and salt. Pour frosting onto cake and spread. Refrigerate.

SPECIAL REQUEST FOR THIS RECIPE! TRY IT OUT AND SEE IF IT WORKS!

HOME-MADE MOSQUITO REPELLENT

(Also ants and fleas!)

Ingredients:

1 cup + 1 Tablespoon Isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol

1/2 cup whole cloves

1/4 cup Baby Oil

Marinate cloves in alcohol, in a covered jar, for 4 days, stirring every morning and evening. After 4 days of soaking, strain and add the oil. It's now ready for use.

How to use: Gently rub a few drops into the skin or arms and legs. Observe the mosquitoes fleeing the room! Repels fleas on pets, too.

**PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES WILL BE VOTED ON AT A
BUSINESS MEETING TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
CHRISTMAS PARTY DECEMBER x6, 2019 AT SHOCCO SPRINGS.**

**IF YOU NEED/WANT A COPY IN ADVANCE CONTACT JOHN
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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Lanny and Donna Holbrook

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Please participate by providing news and updates to be shared with our members who are not at your project. Please email articles and photos to:

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