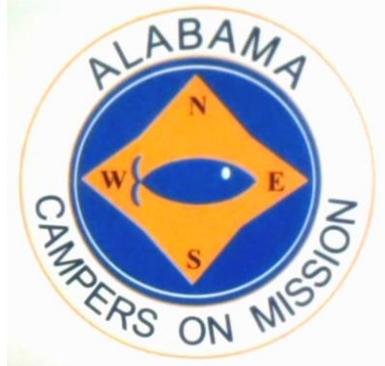


ALABAMA CAMPERS ON MISSION WINTER 2021 - NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S NOTES

We need some new “bell cows.”

Alabama Campers on Mission is changing. It doesn't take a genius to realize that we are getting older. And there are lots of pluses and minuses to getting older. First, for almost all of us, if we were not “of age” we couldn't be doing this. Back when we were chasing a paycheck and raising kids, the hours of our lives were taken up in doing the best we could for our families.

We may have had a few hours free on weekends or maybe some nights to spend as a volunteer in a mission effort, but very few of us could get away for weeks at a time to put our efforts toward doing God's calling somewhere. Some of us did so, on a small scale, by going on vacations to do mission work but those times were the exceptions rather than the rule.

Most of us had to wait until we retired to have any significant number of days, weeks, and, for some, even months to dedicate to answering the Campers on Mission call. To become COMers takes a lot of time, effort, and resources. As much as we would like to think we can do this forever, our time, effort, and resources are limited. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could all, like Wintford and Martha Haynes have done, dedicate 49 years of our lives to Campers on Mission?! They are going to receive a huge “Well Done” someday!

In reality, our time and our health are not limitless. Many of the great leaders of ALCOM, like Jake and Velma Carrol, John and Fran Baughman, as well as many, many others, have had to back away. We owe all our former leaders a great big “Thank You” for the way they have built, shaped, and strengthened this fine organization.

So, what is my point? All of us will, someday, necessarily follow our predecessors into the background whether we like it or not. We must continually enlist and develop new leadership. There are among our flock a lot of potential good leaders.

Retirement is a time for doing whatever it is that we are capable of doing. We could just quit and go fishing or go play golf for the remainder of our time. Years ago, while staring at a computer screen or a classroom full of unruly students, many of us dreamed of lying on a beach in Tahiti or of catching the big one. But, if that is all we do as retirees, we will squander our capabilities and then be dead in a few years.

You and I have a wide variety of skills and specialties that we have prepared and developed over the years. We come from a plethora of backgrounds. Some of us were salesmen, teachers, pilots, preachers, skilled workers, first responders, farmers, soldiers/sailors/airmen/marines, etc., etc. Across the wide variety of backgrounds, the basic principles of leadership are remarkably similar. The basic talents required in leading soldiers or even guiding cattle are somewhat parallel. As we all get older and less physically and mentally capable, we are going to need new “bell cows.” We are going to need to choose from among us more and more new leaders.

[So, what does it take? The basics are simple.](#)

- [1. Understand the problem and the customer.](#)
- [2. Plan an approach and limit the bite to what you can chew.](#)
- [3. Set and communicate the goals.](#)
- [4. Use the skills of your people.](#)
- [5. Motivate and delegate, and](#)
- [6. Take care of your people and the customer.](#)

People, volunteerism, and the perceived rules of our society are changing rapidly so that Alabama Campers on Mission is not what it used to be, but the basics of effective leadership have not changed, nor will they. You don't need to be a strong General to be a good leader. As individuals, we must step up and "be all we can be." We need to pray to be the best leaders we can be and then allow God to help us fill in the gaps.

We cannot allow the legacy of Alabama Campers on Mission to deteriorate.

Walt Miller

THE VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Psalm 119:35 "Direct me by your commands! I love to do what you say."

When was the last time you were part of a group and asked the question, "Where are we going to eat?" Boy what a mess that causes! Nobody wants to make a choice. Same type of problem arises in any group when decisions need to be made. How about buying anything that has to be assembled. Do we just open the box and lay aside the directions and start putting it together the way we think it goes? When you finish or get frustrated and quit, does it resemble the intended product? Maybe it's time to study the directions! So what about your life choices, or your plans that involve serving the Lord? How long do we wait, pray, meditate, and seek God's amazing plan for our present and future? The Psalmist gives us a beautiful glimpse of how we can be sure of what His plan is for us. We should be ready, willing, and pliable like that lump of clay. God wants to create a masterpiece of our broken, sinful, selfish lives. You are a gift from God, made to honor and obey Him! What are we doing with that gift? Are we seeking His will and not our own? Unroll the blank scroll of your today and tomorrow. Then through prayer and listening, fill in the blanks. Like Abraham, Isaiah, and Moses just listen and follow. God never fails! May God bless and keep you!

In His love,

Roger Woodard

Note from June

“His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who has called us by His own glory and goodness. 2 Peter 1:3

In these words, Peter assures believers that God has given us everything we need to live a life that pleases Him. Sometimes we forget this and think we need more, want more, and require more when all we need is more trust in our Savior to provide all that we need.

A Little Bible Trivial

In the book of Joshua, Rahab bound a “scarlet cord” in the window so when the Israelites crossed into the promised land they would see it and save her family. Joshua 2:17-20

God bless and love,

June Woodard

REMINDER FROM LARRY & PEGGY SEARCY AND ROGER & JUNE WOODARD: It is time to make your reservations for the Spring 2022 ALCOM Rally at Gunter Hill Campground, Montgomery, Alabama. The dates are April 7-9, 2022. Most members are reserving in the Catoma Loop. See you there!

PROJECT REPORTS

CAMP BALDWIN - October 4-22, 2021
Project Leaders: Ron & Earnie McMonagle

A team of fourteen Alabama Campers on Mission worked at Camp Baldwin to remodel a home into a new office for the Camp. Lots of work went into this

remodel: pressure washed soffit and painted it; constructed a new interior wall, painted the entire inside of the house; installed new carpet tiles; repaired and installed new exterior door hardware. The ladies also made 5 dresses and 24 shorts. A total of 582 hours were worked on this project.



The Camp Baldwin Team – October 2021

SHOCCO SPRINGS – September 13 – 23, 2021
Project Leaders: Danny & Vickie Stevens

37 members participated in the fall project at Shocco. One of the newest members, Diana Combs, worked a day with us! A porch and steps was built for Residence 6, and railings were added for the back porch. The house was rewired, a laundry room added, and some landscaping was done. A porch, railings, and steps were added to Residence 8. In Crestview, 21 bathrooms, hallways, and entrances were painted, rotten fascia was replaced, and new posts added and painted. At Lakewood, 12 fans were removed and new fans installed. Air conditioner filters and air vents were cleaned at Rocky Ridge and Mary Essie Stephens. Six benches and five flower boxes were built. The EC office at Bagley was painted. Inside doors at Rocky Ridge were painted. The ladies removed linens and cleaned at Twin Lodge, Crestview, and Lakewood. Some of the ladies

organized lost and found items for sale. Several ladies worked in offices. They also did lots of laundry and repaired aprons for the kitchen workers. The group enjoyed a hot dog social during the first week and an ice cream get-together the second week.



The Shocco Team – September 2021

ONEIDA BAPTIST INSTITUTE – October 12-23, 2021

Walt & Jeri Miller – Project Leaders

We had 40 ALCOMers at Oneida Baptist Institute from 12-23 October, 2021. We wired, installed countertops & sinks, patched drywall, and painted 5 staff apartments. We renovated and painted about 12 porches on staff apartments. A large rear deck and an aging patio were removed. Insulation and drywall were installed at a staff apartment that had been gutted by fire. Three porches were pressure washed and two recently vacated apartments were cleaned. The

aeration system at the sewer plant was rebuilt (always fun to work on the sewer plant) and an emergency cutoff for the sewer plant outflow was installed. The men disassembled for scrap numerous appliances and HVAC systems damaged during the 2021 flood. The ladies constructed about 135 face masks for the students and made lots of backpacks and 125 cloth diapers to be distributed by missionaries. Flowerbeds by the main office, gym, and Mission Center were cleaned up. Approximately 10 lounge chairs were repaired and a fireplace mantel was built at Anderson Hall.



The Oneida Team – October 2021

DAVIS CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH – October 25-29, 2021

Project Leaders: Walt & Jeri Miller

After Oneida 2021, four ALCOM couples traveled to the small town of Speedwell, TN, near Cumberland Gap, to renovate Davis Primitive Baptist Church.

The church was chartered in 1797. Their second building (the first burned) was built in 1850. We removed the old siding from one side and the rear, installed insulation from the outside, and installed new siding. We also installed insulation in the ceiling. It rained for 3 of the 5 days we were there.

The rough terrain forklift (Lull), with a 20-foot-wide platform, had a 45-foot reach. It was invaluable. It was provided to the church free of charge.



Greetings, Fellow Campers! Just a reminder! The Christmas Party is coming up soon! The date is Friday, December 3, 2021 @ Shocco Springs Baptist Conference Center. The time is: Business Meeting @ 4:00; Social Hour @ 6:00; Dinner @ 7:00. Hope to see you there!

NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR

My apologies to all of you who submitted multiple photos. I would love to have been able to use them. However, after fighting with my computer for several days, I gave up the fight! You can find multiple photos from all our projects on the ALCOM website in the photo gallery. Again, I apologize, and thank you for understanding. My first newsletter as Editor was December 2016. I am asking that one of you step up and take over the newsletter. Please see me or Walt Miller if you would be willing to do this. This is a volunteer organization and I look forward to your willingness to serve. I have enjoyed putting these together – but it is time for new ideas and new approach to newsletter. Thank you for your patience.

Joyce Godwin



Pumpkin & Peanut Butter Doggie Treats

(Contributed by Earnie McMonagle)

1 cup oats (old fashioned, 1-minute, or instant) (more if needed, see instructions)

1/3 cup pure pumpkin (not pumpkin pie filling)

1/4 cup natural peanut butter

Instructions:

- **Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Line baking sheet with parchment paper.**
- **Add oats to food processor and grind until they reach fine powder. Add in pumpkin and peanut butter and blend until a sticky dough is formed.**
- **Remove from the processor and roll out on a lightly floured surface. (Use whole wheat flour, more ground oats, or another flour that you have on hand.) Cut out cookies using a small cookie cutter of any shape, or alternatively just cut into squares with a knife.**
- **Lay the treats on the prepared baking sheet and bake for 25 to 30 minutes, until the treats are dry and hard. Let cool before giving to your pup and store in an airtight container.**