

# the afterglow

## Issue 93, Spring 2018

### ***Following the Gleam: Meet new NCF President, Nell Jefferson Fredericksen***

If you have shown off your favorite Nature Camp t-shirt design, been warmed up by a delicious meal at a Service Weekend, looked for friends and memories in the Afterglow, or enjoyed a jewelry or herpetology class at Adult Session – chances are you have been touched by Nell Jefferson Fredericksen. The insatiably curious scientist-artist-cook-teacher has played so many roles in the Nature Camp community that even she has to work to remember them all, and she now brings her multiple talents, and forty-three-year passion for camp, to the position of President of the Nature Camp Foundation.

Nell first came to know Camp through her mother's garden club in Danville. A scholarship recipient, she attended Fourth Session for the first time at age 11. When she arrived for her first Camp session, she was not yet a "reptile nerd". In fact, she was not thrilled to find herself stuck with herpetology as a major class. During the class sign-up, which was at that time a mad rush, first-come, first-served system, she was at the nurse for allergy medicine. When she returned to the L.S., herps were the only open option remaining. On the first major class day, she and a gaggle of boys clustered around a cage in the education building. Unable to see, she circled to the back and instructor George Tolley handed her Henrietta, a pine snake ("a beautiful, beautiful snake," she remembers) - and thus her lifelong love of all things herpetological was born. Many of us have a mental image of Nell delivering an impromptu lecture outside the bunkhouse with a snake wrapped around her arm or a salamander on her palm. She currently teaches for four Master Naturalist chapters and is an adjunct instructor at Ferrum College. Thank you, Henrietta!



From this auspicious start, Nell became an 8-year camper and worked five years as a counselor. Nell taught everything from astronomy to entomology and of course... herpetology. She remembers with fondness her stint as canteen operator (and appreciates a few lessons in home brewing she learned from then-caretaker Sam Lavender in the back room of the canteen).

As it has for so many people, Camp became like family for Nell. She found herself transformed by the chance to be smart without social backlash, to get muddy and messy, and above all bond with a cohort of like-minded people in what she terms her "awkward years." The association of Camp and family gained an added poignancy when she lost her father to cancer at 16. When she arrived that summer, she heard Colonel Reeves summon her with his typically gruff voice: "Jefferson, get in here!" When she entered the staff house, she got the warm, loving bear hug she needed. Colonel's deep kindness and concern for her in that moment stands out in sharp relief in her memory.

While most camp alumni share this sense that camp "is family," not everyone can say that they've actually formed a family of their own from Camp; Nell can. Her husband, Todd Fredericksen, came to Camp to teach

archaeology the summer after he graduated from the Virginia Military Institute. In Nell's own words, she "chased him and got him," and their marriage followed a few years later.

Nell attended Randolph-Macon Women's College, majoring in Biology and minoring in Chemistry. Her master's study at Virginia Tech involved reptile physiology (energy expenditure in skink tail regeneration, which she insists "is too geeky for this article"), and she was headed to veterinary school with a research assistantship when her life took an unexpected turn.

A few months before she was to start her vet program, Nell enrolled in some art classes at a local community college, taking metalsmithing, pottery, and stained glass. The classes tapped a well of talent and curiosity. When her graduate advisor called two weeks before the semester began with the news that her funding had evaporated, Nell immersed herself in her new passion instead and became an artist.

Excelling in both pottery and metalsmithing, Nell now exhibits her work in 5-6 juried shows per year, partners with five galleries, as well as works on many commissions. An Artisan Center of Virginia Juried Master Artisan, Nell teaches workshops at the Floyd Center for the Arts. Her designs, in both pottery and jewelry, frequently reflect natural themes and shapes. Her classes are among the most popular at Adult Session every year. If you are curious about her work you can check out her website – [www.nellfredericksen.com](http://www.nellfredericksen.com).

Nell describes herself as an "anomaly" as an artist. She is as comfortable with pottery as she is with metalsmithing. Nell finds that the two disciplines "keep each other fresh," enjoying both the elasticity of clay and the "whacking and torching" she can do with metal. Even if you haven't seen her jewelry or pottery designs, you have certainly admired her artwork; for thirty years, she has created the intricate, lifelike scenes of local wildlife and habitats for the Nature Camp t-shirt. It is a true labor of love for which she has never asked for compensation, and the anticipated unveiling of the new, highly-secret design is a highlight of the Camp year.



While some of Nell's camp roles are highly visible, she has also done much behind the scenes. During Camp's transition in ownership from the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, she served as secretary of NC Acquisition (now Nature Camp Inc.), formed to oversee the operation of Camp. Nell then transitioned to the NCF board where she spent nine years as Communications Chair and editor of the *Afterglow*. In 2009, when the need arose for someone to head up the kitchen crew for Service Weekends, Nell graciously and enthusiastically grabbed the reins as head cook (and she thankfully has no plans to retire from this role, despite taking on new responsibilities as NCF president). For her myriad and invaluable contributions to Camp, Nell was inducted into the Roll of Honor in 2010.

One of Nell's newer roles is that of mother-of-campers. Of course, her children Neil and Lily have been to Camp since they were in utero, and they emerged early as lovers of the Nature Camp experience.

Many of us have admired Lily's caterpillar collection and delighted in seeing a seven-year-old poring over a dichotomous key – all to be sure she could gather the correct foods for her specimens. Neil just became one of the youngest Certified Virginia Master Naturalists. Nell loves watching the two of them, both current campers, making their own unique Camp stories.

Multiple opportunities to serve Camp have been an excellent match for Nell's natural energy and curiosity ("I hate being bored," she notes). In Camp, she knows she has a mission with profound importance. Camp's impact on people goes beyond its gifts of learning about the natural world-- "it's life lessons, a pathway to what you want to do and what you



want to be” she says. Those lessons endure and continue to inspire campers’ lives - as evidence Nell cites the close to 3000 loyal Camp alumni and others who support the Nature Camp Foundation.

Everyone who knows Nell wonders at some point how she does all of the things she does so well. Her explanation is simple: she doesn’t like limits, and “you never know what you’re going to learn or do until you try it.” If the sentiment strikes a chord with the Nature Camp family, there’s a reason. The space, time, and support to grow are doubtless Camp’s greatest gifts to its participants. Small wonder that the new president of the Nature Camp Foundation, nurtured on the banks of Big Mary’s, is determined to never stop learning, experimenting, and growing.

- by Sandra Hayslette

## *News from Nature Camp, Inc.*

- Katie Hoffman, Nature Camp, Inc. President

Happy spring from the board of Nature Camp, Inc. Let me begin by making sure that I thank several people who have moved off of the board. Of course, Amy Gonzalez left me some pretty big shoes to fill, and I am determined to do my best. We miss having her on our board, but we’re excited that she will be putting her many talents to work in service of the NCF as their new Development Chair.

Sarah Preston, our talented Secretary, moved off of the board. Sarah really did wonders with our communication to scholarship donors, updating our thank-you letter with fresh graphics and photos from Camp. We’re very stylish now! Fortunately, Tony Walters has agreed to serve as Board Secretary. Tony has had many roles on Camp’s staff, and will help us reach our goal of being more intergenerational. We know he’ll bring some good insights with him to our board.

Big thanks go to Joe Garvin for being willing to become the Vice-President; I’m really pleased that he’s willing to bring his talent and experience to the table. He’s one of my longest-term Camp friends and I value his intelligence and wisdom. (Don’t get the big head, Joe, just because I’m being nice to you in the After-glow!) When Joe became VP, we needed a new Financial Assistance Director, and Alex Haney gamely agreed to assume this important role. With the help of his committee members and with some good advice from Joe, Alex has already survived his first round of applications for aid, and it has gone quite smoothly.

Finally, Corey Basham joined our board to become Facilities Director when Ventry Smith moved over to the Caretaker position. We’re excited to have Corey join us, putting his experience as NCF Service Weekend Chair to good use on our board. I am incredibly grateful for the service of so many talented people—those who are leaving us and those who are just beginning to bring their considerable talents to our board.

In other NCI news, Stacy Luks, our Publicity and Promotions Director, is hard at work planning another Prospective Camper Orientation day (which she will describe in her own article), and she has also begun working on a redesign of the Nature Camp brochure and our NCI website.

Nina Chew Anderson, our Education Director, is working with Flip to compile a list of good Evening Program speakers, so if you have suggestions, please send her an email with a short description and the potential speaker’s contact information.

We have a new Adult Session Coordinator, Alexandra Miller, who will be supporting Flip in organizing Adult Session and ensuring that it runs smoothly. The Education Building Project is moving along (please see the separate article on this subject), and we are looking forward to another wonderful set of Camp sessions in 2018.

**Editors note: All of us - the NCF board, NCI board and Nature Camp Family - welcome Katie Hoffman and cannot wait to work with her.**

## ***Adult Session 2018, June 7-11, 2018***

### ***The Invisible in Nature***

Do you remember your time at Nature Camp fondly and wish you could go back? Are you secretly envious of your child's camp adventures? Well then dust off your travelling trunks and bring a pencil and please join us in June for Nature Camp's 29th consecutive Adult Session. For five days, from Thursday the 7th to Monday the 11th, we will explore the theme of "The Invisible in Nature;" learn more about the hidden world under our feet, above our heads, and in the vast cosmos; and enjoy stimulating conversation, pleasant company, and outstanding food. We will investigate the flora and fauna in and around Nature Camp, make solar prints from natural items and bows and arrows for children, learn how to navigate with map and compass, engage in personal nature writing, play with solar toys, brew beer, and take a trip to the dark side of space and time.

And participants will once again have the opportunity to learn a new instrument and make beautiful music together in the Appalachian string band ensemble. Several new instructors will join the experienced faculty, and we welcome back some veterans after an absence of one or more years. Two full days of classes, workshops, crafts, field excursions, natural history study, and hikes will be followed by a day-long field trip (location TBD). The cost is \$320 per person and includes all meals from supper on Thursday through breakfast on Monday.

For more information or to register please visit the Adult Session page on the Nature Camp website ([www.naturecamp.net/programs/adult-session-programs/](http://www.naturecamp.net/programs/adult-session-programs/)), or e-mail Executive Director Flip Coulling at [director@naturecamp.net](mailto:director@naturecamp.net).

### ***Update your information!!!***

The Foundation wants to have the best information on our supporters as possible so please update your contact information (your "profile") at <http://naturecampfoundation.org/my-profile/>. Updated and concise contact information will help the NCF provide the right information to you in the format you prefer.

Additionally, ask your Camp friends to do the same. There are plenty of folk still not in the "Circle" and we certainly want to inform them of the great things going on at Camp.

***<http://naturecampfoundation.org/my-profile/>***

### ***Find us on Facebook!!!***

***You can connect with the Nature Camp Foundation at:***

***<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Nature-Camp-Foundation/107552817467>***

***You can stay in touch with Nature Camp, Inc. at:***

***[https://www.facebook.com/pages/Nature-Camp/324806714283350?ref=br\\_tf](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Nature-Camp/324806714283350?ref=br_tf)***

## *News from Nature Camp*

Fifteen years ago the former Board of Trustees established the Roll of Honor to recognize those individuals who have made extraordinary, non-monetary contributions to Nature Camp. This year we induct into the Roll of Honor the two most recent presidents of the Nature Camp Foundation and Nature Camp Inc.

Since her first session as a camper in 1991, Annie White has served Nature Camp in many capacities, including four summers on staff, frequent participation in Service Weekends, and several evening program presentations. Following the difficult decision of the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs to close Nature Camp in September 2006, Annie devoted her entire fall break at the University of Michigan (where she was dually enrolled in the School of Natural Resources and Environment and the Ross School of Business) to gather information, crunch numbers, and prepare for the October meeting at Nature Camp, when the NCF board and a throng of Camp supporters made a firm commitment to keep Nature Camp's doors open. Although she couldn't even be there, as she had to return to Ann Arbor beforehand, Annie's herculean efforts and diligent research helped illuminate the way forward and establish a vision for a new role for NCF. In 2013, Annie agreed to succeed Powell Hutton as president of the NCF and immediately made her own important contributions to help streamline operations and further strengthen the relationship between NCF and NCI. Perhaps her two most significant and important legacies are the adoption of eTapestry as a platform for managing donor and volunteer information, which have improved NCF's outreach and fundraising efforts, and the establishment of a grant program, by which NCI applies for annual funding for capital improvements and Service Weekend projects and which has aided both organizations in financial planning and identifying future needs.

After four summers as a camper in the 1960s and early 1970s, Amy Gonzalez (née Kasdorf) spent 35 years away from Nature Camp before returning for Adult Session in 2005. She has been a fixture at this event and Service Weekends ever since. Nearly everyone who has attended a Service Weekend in the past dozen years has probably found her- or himself at one end of Amy's camera—with a smiling face with a twinkle in her eye at the other end. She enlivens every gathering of Camp folk with her grace, humor, and generosity, and she has represented Nature Camp outside of Vesuvius in numerous ways, most notably at the Richmond Council of Garden Clubs's annual Fashions with Flowers event, which has generated several thousand dollars for Camp over the years. Amy joined the NCI board as Vice President/Secretary in 2007 and assumed the position of president in 2012, succeeding Anne Balto. During her tenure, Amy spearheaded a number of initiatives appropriate for a maturing management organization, including registering Nature Camp as a Charitable Solicitation organization with the Virginia Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, implementing liability waivers for Service Weekends and Fall Hike Day, reviving the annual Orientation Day for new and prospective campers, and creating a performance review process for Nature Camp's full-time employees. She even helped find a good home for Nature Camp's old mattresses when they were replaced en masse a few years ago so that they wouldn't all wind up in the Rockbridge County landfill.

For these myriad contributions, Annie and Amy, we salute you and thank you for your invaluable service to Camp! We know we don't have to tell either one of you not to be a stranger in the Big Mary's Creek valley.

As this issue of the Afterglow goes to press, a handful of spaces remain open for boys (currently in grades 9-12) in First Session (June 17-30) and for girls (grades 5-6) in Fourth Session (July 29 – August 11), and many vacancies still exist for boys in Fourth Session. Some financial aid may still be available for applicants in need. For more information or to submit an application, please visit [www.naturecamp.net](http://www.naturecamp.net) or call or e-mail Executive Director Philip Coulling at 540-460-7897 or [director@naturecamp.net](mailto:director@naturecamp.net).

Nature Camp welcomes suggestions for evening program speakers and volunteers to present programs during our summer sessions, especially on topics of natural history, life and physical sciences, sustainability and other environmental issues, and eco-travel. We are also always on the lookout for instrumentalists and singers to provide programs of traditional, acoustic string-band music. Nature Camp has modest funds to offer stipends to speakers, but we are happy to cover travel expenses, to feed guests dinner beforehand, and to provide overnight accommodations if necessary. Please direct any suggestions or inquiries to Director of Education Nina Anderson at [gfgirl10@hotmail.com](mailto:gfgirl10@hotmail.com).

-Philip Coulling, Director, Nature Camp, Inc.

## ***Education Building Project***

If there's one thing that characterizes our Nature Camp community, it's teamwork. I remain grateful for the opportunity to work with such dedicated and interested people on this project. We've been quiet, but we haven't been idle. Over the winter, Flip, Ryan Hester, and I went over the final report from Glavé and Holmes and also the cost estimate that G&H provided through an independent contractor, Hanscomb. We also had valuable input from Latham Schweitzer Coates. The estimate was higher than expected, partly due to Hanscomb's assumptions that we had a normal building with HVAC and standard plumbing. We reviewed the estimate for opportunities to keep costs low and maximize volunteer participation in the process, and in January I presented our findings and suggestions at the Nature Camp Foundation board meeting.

Flip and I joined Amy Gonzalez (working in her capacity as both a task force member and NCF Development Chair) in a meeting with Gibson Worsham of G&H on March 18, where we went over some of our questions about the estimate. During that meeting, we decided that rather than hiring G&H to oversee Phase II of the construction process, we would hire them to make detailed drawings of some of the more complicated elements of the renovation (such as the monitors that will go on top of the roof to allow more natural light into the spaces). We will seek a contractor who will work with us to put this project together Nature-Camp-style, with room for volunteer labor (which might include, for example, preparation of the space before renovations begin, construction of new bookshelves for the library, installation of new lights and ceiling fans, and painting and other finish work).

In addition, we may seek opportunities for corporate or industry donations (such as lighting and plumbing fixtures) and would welcome any suggestions to pursue for in-kind contributions. These efforts will keep costs down and allow for maximum community engagement. G&H is in the process of writing a letter of agreement regarding their drawings, and we are now considering contractors for the overall project. NCF has come up with a budget to support this, and we hope to begin the actual work sometime in 2019, after NCF commences a multi-phase capital campaign and determines if a construction loan would be prudent to expedite the project. Please stay tuned—and be thinking about how you might like to be part of the project.

- By Katie Hoffman and Philip Coulling

## ***Our Virtual "Nature Camp Canteen"***

***10 More Designs are now online! (a total of 20 vintage designs)***

You can now order T-shirts, sweatshirts, onesies, kids wear, mugs, etc. from our new online "canteen." We have a total of 20 past Nature Camp designs available in our shop or you can purchase the designs for use on a variety of items.

Please visit our SpreadShirt shop at:

***[https://shop.spreadshirt.com/  
NatureCampFoundation?noCache=true](https://shop.spreadshirt.com/NatureCampFoundation?noCache=true)***

The \$2.50 we earn from each sale goes to support our scholarship fund!!!



## Service Weekend

Service weekend is an opportunity for those who believe in Camp's mission to gather, enjoy the company of others who share those feelings, and contribute through a unique donation of time and effort to the place we all love. The Fall Service Weekend 2017 took place the third weekend of September and was slightly abbreviated so that we could come together as a Camp family to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of Nature Camp. The fall Service Weekend provides an opportunity to complete maintenance and repairs needed after a long summer, as well as the opportunity to start larger projects that typically take longer than one weekend to complete.

When I reviewed the list of projects completed, it was hard to tell we spent half a day relaxing and celebrating! Many projects that had been on "the list" for a year or more were successfully completed and other tasks that had just been added were taken care of as well. Our new caretaker, Ventry Smith, recently moved into the caretaker's house and we were tasked with the addition of a landing/deck on the side entrance of that structure to make entry and egress safer and more manageable. An early crew showed up and worked diligently to make sure this project would be completed on time. Many of those who have visited Camp as a camper, staffer, or otherwise, may have never noticed the letters on each building, just above the entrance way, but they are there and were painted so that they could be visible from the road. The benches around camp are made primarily of white oak logs that have been split in half and repair and replacement of these was started. Every window in camp has a corresponding, hand-built screen that is custom made for each opening and maintenance of these screens is a constant task in order to provide an open yet protected environment for the summer inhabitants. The drawers in the bunkhouses that are available for use by campers to store items during their stay are also custom made and fitted to each opening and maintenance of these was carried out making them function smoothly. The kitchen is consistently the hub of activity during the summer and during other events at Camp, and Service Weekend is no exception.

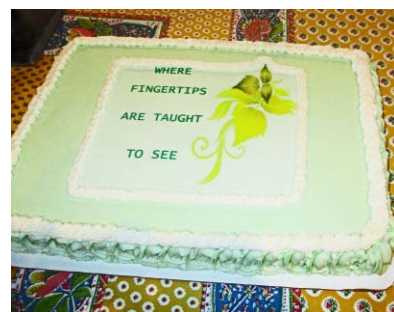


As always, special thanks is due to our head cook during these weekends, Nell Fredericksen, and her team of volunteers for consistently providing a variety of remarkable meals. The use the kitchen sees makes for plenty of cleaning and repair jobs and occasional upgrades make the space much more efficient and enjoyable. Last fall we were able to add LED lightbulbs to this area, providing more light for those using the space and saving energy. The Staff House and Educational Building received new handrails, making them safer and easier to access for those needing support when entering or exiting those buildings. Each year the Nature Camp Trail (the gravel road leading in to camp) is worn down by occasional heavy traffic and normal weathering which makes repairs necessary. A major repair was begun and is continuing and those arriving this summer will notice a dramatic improvement to the road condition. All of these projects, and more, were completed in less time than usual due entirely to the dedication of those that showed up and selflessly gave their weekend to serve Camp

and make it a better place to learn and grow.

Thank you to Nina, Porter, Matthew, Penny, Barak, Caroline, Cori, Elaine, William, Connie, Cate, Reid, Stephen, Nell, Wynne, Ryan, Claire, Paul, Sarah, Amy, Kenzie, Noah, Katie, Emma, Vicki, Kim, Art, Louise, Mary Frances, Theta, Shirley, William, Dave, Stephanie, Sarah, David, Adam, Bob, Ben, David, Krista, Troy, Emily, George, Danny, Mike, Martha, Ryan, Brett, Gerry, Larry, Carolyn, Edward, Jerry, Lyt, Andrew, Caragh, Maria, Auggie, Carter, Hanly, Langston, Joel, Evan, Leah, Naomi, Lily, Nate, Nora, Haley, Faith, Kamiya, Willow, Kaylani, and Rayne. Your donation to Camp through your attendance and effort to improve the facilities for the future is appreciated!

Everyone is welcome at Service Weekend regardless of prior experience as a camper or staffer and all skill levels can be put to use. We welcome families and the rec field or the surrounding National Forest provides an excellent opportunity for those who desire to camp as a group. The traditional, separate male and female bunkhouses and bathhouses are fully available for use during the weekend while very limited alternate accommodations are available on-site. Those requiring or desiring other accommodation are encouraged to check out the various lodging options available in nearby Lexington. Please contact Theta Miller, our new Service Weekend Chair for NCF - [theta\\_miller@hotmail.com](mailto:theta_miller@hotmail.com), with any requests or concerns regarding sleeping accommodations or dietary restrictions including allergies (we make sure everyone, no matter what dietary restrictions you may have, is fed well). Please go to [www.naturecampfoundation.org](http://www.naturecampfoundation.org) and click the "Stay Connected" link in the upper right corner to update your information in our system in order to receive communications regarding upcoming NCF events.



- Corey Basham,  
former Service  
Weekend Chair, NCF



## ***Our NCF Website Has a Fresh New Look!!***

Lots of work has been going on to update content and refine the look of our NCF website. Our talented Webmaster, Michaux Hood of Charmed Designworks has given us a much crisper, cleaner and hopefully easier to navigate site. A huge thanks to Michaux for all this hard work!! It is now mobile friendly making it easy to utilize your phones and tablets. So check out our mobile friendly new look at:

***[www.naturecampfoundation.org](http://www.naturecampfoundation.org)***



## ***Prospective Camper Day - July 21, 2018***

We are looking forward to again hosting our now-fourth annual “sneak-peek” at Nature Camp for prospective campers on the middle Saturday of this year’s 3rd Session.

Thanks to Flip Coulling informing campers and their families about this event as part of their notice of acceptance to Camp in February, we always get a rush of RSVPs in the winter - a lovely way to put us in a summer-season mindset (this has been especially welcome during this long winter of 2018!).

We hosted an enthusiastic and grateful group of 30+ for the 2017 “prospectives’ day.” As always, the expressions of thanks received from attendees tell us the day is extremely helpful, especially for soon-to-be 4th session first-timers, their siblings, and parents/grandparents. Seeing Camp’s setting and surrounds; touring the bunkhouses, outdoor classrooms, educational buildings and the L.S.; making connections with enthusiastic resident-campers, and sampling a class in Big Mary’s Creek and on the Buttermilk Springs trail - not to mention meeting Flip, some of the counselors, and Amy Beard - are all valuable touch points for those that make the journey to Vesuvius.

As for spreading the word about Prospective Camper Day, we now enjoy what has become a yearly tradition of being featured on Richmond PBS radio station WCVE’s “Science Matters” Community Calendar Pick-of-the-Week during the month of June. As well, we post the event on other public broadcast radio platforms across the state. If you know of any additional outlets we should tap, please let us know. Also, please help us spread the word about Prospective Camper Day through your networks. We have a continuing focus on middle school educators -- teachers, librarians, nature center and after-school program administrators, etc. who can help us identify rising 5th & 6th grade boys, especially, as well as girls – that initial entry age for camp population whose ranks tend to fill up more slowly than the older campers.

As always, look for postings about 2018 Prospective Camper Day on Camp’s website and Facebook page, fliers will also be available at Service Weekend, Adult Session, and Camp 1st and 2nd session, but please reach out if you would like a small supply to share.

For further information please contact me – [sphomer@comcast.net](mailto:sphomer@comcast.net); tel 703.405.3763

- Stacy Luks, Publicity and Promotions, Nature Camp, Inc.

## ***Nature Camp Foundation Development***

Hello Dear Ones,

I’ve changed hats, from President of the Board of Directors for Nature Camp, Inc., to Chair of the Development Committee of the Nature Camp Foundation. Where I have previously been discreet in my solicitation for support for Nature Camp, my requests will become a bit more overt. Please don’t run the other way when you see me coming!

Nature Camp has enjoyed monetary and sweat equity support from you very generous people over the 75 years we’ve been in existence. That need for support doesn’t stop. Our commitment to educating youth in the natural sciences and inspiring their passion for learning and caring about our precious natural resources means there will always be a financial aid program that must be funded. Vehicles for field trips must be replaced. Equipment deteriorates, especially in the damp woods of Vesuvius! We do our best to maintain and improve – you can always help.

If you want a speaker for your club or organization, or you just have questions about ways to help Nature Camp through the Foundation – don’t hesitate to contact me: Amy Kasdorf Gonzalez, [amykgonzalez@gmail.com](mailto:amykgonzalez@gmail.com).

- Amy Gonzalez, Development Chair, NCF

## ***Edward Stuart Saunders, Jr. 1922-2018***

Edward Stuart Saunders, Jr., 96, of Richmond, passed away February 6, 2018. Born in Roanoke, Va. on January 6, 1922, he was predeceased by his parents, Edward S. Saunders and Beulah Elizabeth Sandidge Saunders. Ed was a member of the 116th Infantry Band, 29th Division in Bedford, Va. While in the Fort Blanding, Florida hospital recovering from an injury, he was assigned to the 30th Division, 119th Infantry HQ Co., and remained with this unit until VE Day. The 30th Division is known as the "Workhorse of the Western Front" (Old Hickory). Ed voluntarily served his country and was proud of his service in the Army. He retired from General Electric and was a Mason for 72 years. He is survived by his devoted wife of 70 years, Martha (Silcox) Saunders; and their four children, Nancy (Jay) Wood, Ed (Maryah) Saunders, Gary (Jean) Saunders, Kathy (Ed) Pusey; and grandchildren, Morgan Balch, David Wood, Rachel Rush, Eddie Saunders, Stuart Saunders; and eight great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Catherine (Silcox) Folden of Roanoke, Va. The family would like to thank The Crossings at Bon Air for their care and compassion and also the HBPC Staff of the VA (Richard Forth, NP) for their continued care and kindness. Ed will be deeply missed by his family.

Ed Saunders and his wife Martha have long term connections to Nature Camp. Martha served as Nature Camp treasurer from around 1995 until 2005, and in 2005 Ed was inducted into the Nature Camp Roll of Honor.

## ***Cathy Jane Edwards Scaife 1959-2018***

Cathy Jane Edwards Scaife, 59, died on April 11th, 2018 in Lexington, Kentucky. Cathy was the only child of James F. Edwards and Jane T. Edwards in Falmouth, VA, born on February 14, 1959. She graduated from Stafford Senior High School in 1977 as the salutatorian and in 1981 earned a B.A. in Greek and Classical Studies from the College of William and Mary, where she met her husband, Allen Ross Scaife. She attended the University of Texas in Austin to earn an M.A. in Latin. In 1991, Cathy and Ross moved to Lexington, KY where Ross was hired as a professor of Classics at UK. Cathy worked as the first Latin II teacher in Kentucky Educational Television's Distance Learning Program, and taught Latin at Lexington Catholic High School where she inspired a love of Latin in her students. In 2014 she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Kentucky World Language Association. Cathy's love of the Classics and of teaching is surpassed only by her love for her husband, Ross, who died of cancer on March 15, 2008, and for her three sons, Lincoln (26), Adrian (23), and Russell (19). Cathy was the Alpha and the Omega of her family. Her love made their home one of compassion and acceptance for all. Cathy believed that a meaningful life could be found by contributing to the lives of those around her. As her body endured the physical tolls of cancer she found respite in reinvesting herself in her community, a pursuit from which she derived great happiness and comfort. Cathy will remain a vibrant presence in the memory of her many friends. In addition to her three sons, Cathy is survived by her mother, Jane Edwards of Fredericksburg, VA, and her cat, Sake. Cathy was an active member of Saint Peter Claver Catholic Church. A Memorial Service for Cathy is being planned for this summer. Memorial donations may be made to: the Swift, Scaife, Longacre Scholarship Fund supporting classical studies at UK. Please make checks payable to the University of Kentucky, sent to Sturgill Philanthropy Bldg., 450 Rose St., Lexington, KY 40506-0015, with the name of the fund in the memo; Central Music Academy which supports lessons for underprivileged students, sent to Central Music Academy c/o Transylvania University, 300 N. Broadway, Lexington, KY 40508, or [www.centralmusicacademy.org](http://www.centralmusicacademy.org); or the St. Peter Claver Building Fund, at 485 W. 4th St., Lexington, KY 40508, or [www.cdlex.org/stpeterclaver](http://www.cdlex.org/stpeterclaver).

Cathy was the mother and aunt of many Nature campers (and staff) and a supporter of the NCF. As a Nature Camp family we extend our deepest sympathy and much love to her family.

## *Calendar of Events 2018 - 2019*

Spring Service Weekend	18-20 May 2018
NCF Annual Open Meeting	19 May 2018
NCI Board Meeting	2 June 2018
Adult Session	7-11 June 2018
NCI Prospective Camper Day	21 July 2018
Fall Service Weekend	14-16 September 2018
NCI Board Meeting	17 November 2018
NCF Annual Board Meeting	TBD January 2019



### **Nature Camp Foundation Board of Directors**

Nell Fredericksen, President.  
Sarah Hulcher, Vice-President  
Louise Bowling Manilla, Secretary  
Amy Wingfield Clark, Treasurer  
Adam Rotche, At-Large Member  
Jason Farr, At-Large Member  
Sharon Keith, Communications  
Amy Gonzalez, Development  
Elizabeth Knapp, Finance  
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