The Merrie-Woode Foundation has exciting news to share with you. The Board of Trustees and the Executive Directors have worked diligently to expand and protect camp’s beautiful setting from encroaching development. On August 12, 2010, the Board was successful in acquiring additional land along the camp’s road. This acquisition was a combined donation of one commercial parcel and the purchase of four additional residential lots that border Merrie-Woode’s road at the Highway 64 entrance.

Mr. Gene Howerdd, Jr., the developer of the Round Hill Estates, shared our concern regarding the potential for commercial development between the entrances to Round Hill and Merrie-Woode. Mr. Howerdd donated the commercial parcel to Merrie-Woode with the intention of preserving this site from development. In addition to this donation, Merrie-Woode purchased the four Round Hill residential lots for $525,000.

The Board has had a long held vision of protecting the camp’s surrounding property. Over the last fifteen years, the Foundation has made a concerted effort to acquire property as it became available. The purchases include 33 acres on the backside of Round Hill (adjacent to the camp’s stables and across from the chapel area), the 17 acre Inn Site Property, as well as a lot along the camp road where our new gates are located. One very significant piece of property located on the east side of Lake Fairfield (a 100 acre tract extending from the camp gate on the Lake Trail to the dam and over the top of Little Bald) was the most challenging to obtain, but in 2005 the Merrie-Woode Foundation was finally able to acquire this beautiful tract of land.

These acquisitions have been made possible largely through the generous giving of alumnae to Merrie-Woode. We would like to thank each of our past supporters who have given so generously to the Place of Rarest Beauty, Inn Site, and Place of Rarest Beauty – the final piece campaigns. Your gifts have been carefully used to make these land purchases. If there are any members of the Merrie-Woode community who feel strongly about the importance of preserving this most recent purchase, we would greatly appreciate contributions for this purpose.

Inside...
- Wit’s End................................. Page 2
- Staff News.............................. Page 2
- Alumnae News......................... Page 4
- CMW Renovations............Pages 10-11
- Around Camp......................... Page 14
At Wit’s End

We hope this newsletter finds you doing well and that you are enjoying the beautiful autumn leaves. We feel fortunate to be able to walk around the Lake Trail in camp; the fall colors are a sight to behold. If it has been awhile since you’ve seen camp in the fall, it’s worth the trip next year. We finished the camper application process in September and once again, camp is at capacity for 2011, with waitlists. We are thankful to our Merrie-Woode families for being patient as we work through the enrollment process each fall, especially those families interested in our June session. We are thrilled that Merrie-Woode continues to enhance the lives of so many young women each year.

We are looking forward to an off season filled with many projects. Doxology, Briar Patch, and Buckingham Palace are getting some much needed repairs. The floors, walls, and ceilings were getting covered in graffiti and the bathroom areas were showing some age. The campers and staff will be pleased with the cleaner and brighter look. We also plan to add new trails on the other side of the lake and an additional camping shelter. The High Heaven kitchen will be remodeled, too. These tasks are sure to keep us busy throughout the winter.

Merrie-Woode’s 92nd summer along Lake Fairfield was better than ever, especially with the excitement over the new Nature Nook! The improvements to the Nature Nook and the new nature curriculum made Nature one of the most popular activities this summer. We also enjoyed the June session drama production of Charlotte’s Web and the Main session drama production of Into the Woods this summer. Our Chapel services were uplifting, especially when we were fortunate to have alumnae come to speak. Susan Lewis Edwards (90-99), an ordained minister, inspired the girls with her sermon one Sunday. There were so many highlights around camp this summer - Evening Programs, “Lady Gaga” themed Banquets and our Flash Mob dance are just a few that come to mind. If you haven’t had an opportunity to see our Main session staff and campers perform their “surprise dance” on the tennis courts for Senior Staff, you can watch it on YouTube.com (type in – cmwflashmob). You’ll be amazed!

We have enjoyed our quiet fall. Tyler is in the Florida Keys doing his internship, and Bradley started his freshman year at UNC Chapel Hill. We attended the Chapel Hill Parents Weekend in October, and the whole weekend felt like a Merrie-Woode Reunion. We are grateful to all of our CMW girls who made us feel so welcome at their sororities. We had a lot of fun! We look forward to spending time with Tyler and Bradley when they come home for the holidays. We hope that everyone has a safe and happy holiday season, and we hope to see many of you during our upcoming travels.

Chug a Wump!

Staff News

Katy Allamong will graduate from Hollins University in May 2011, and she hopes to be offered a job with Teach for America. Virginia Alverson lives in Birmingham, AL these days. She’s enjoying her work and had a chance to visit camp this summer. Halfway across the world, Helena Botes is making plans to begin her first year at Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand this Spring. She hopes to time her exams so that she can spend the summer at Merrie-Woode! Campbell Bowers is in touch with the year-round Merrie-Woode staff every once in a while. She says school is going well, though she can’t believe she will be graduating in May! Campbell is enjoying her internship with a Charleston, SC art gallery and spending as much time with camp friends as possible. She will host a big group for her birthday in October: Grace Thorington, Perry Ellis, Sarah

Elizabeth Bean and Mary Parke McEachran
Buckley Airforce Base, which is just
March, Riley will be stationed at
School in west Texas. Starting in
Training and is currently in Tech
Honors from Air Force Basic
Riley Dickey
in Rome, Italy. In August,
Coker
is enjoying her study abroad
loving school. This semester,
Eliza
she is making many friends and
the Converse Equestrian Team, but
going well. She is quite busy with
semester at Converse College is
plenty of work,
Sarah Chatel
Mallie Salerno.
Bowers, Tee Bowers, Ellie Lee,
staff members this year!
the home of so many Merrie-Woode
College of Charleston seems to be
undergraduate Spanish classes.
Kaye is busy teaching two
graduate degree in Spanish at
Georgia Southern University. While
she takes her own graduate classes,
Kay is busy teaching two
undergraduate Spanish courses.
College of Charleston seems to be
the home of so many Merrie-Woode
staff members this year! Caroline
Carnahan is the Philanthropic
Chair for Theta this semester. When
she is not busy with her sorority
work, Caroline runs into Campbell
Bowers, Tee Bowers, Ellie Lee, and
Mallie Salerno. Although it is
plenty of work, Sarah Chatel’s first
semester at Converse College is
going well. She is quite busy with
the Converse Equestrian Team, but
she is making many friends and
loving school. This semester, Eliza
Coker is enjoying her study abroad
program in Rome, Italy. In August,
Riley Dickey graduated with
Honors from Air Force Basic
Training and is currently in Tech
School in west Texas. Starting in
March, Riley will be stationed at
Buckley Airforce Base, which is just
outside of Denver. Riley took a
quick break from school recently to
spend the weekend with Audrey
Dyer in Austin, TX. We heard that
Perry Ellis loves graduate school at
UVA. She is studying Speech
Language Pathology and is working
hard, but she also finds time for fun!
Perry says it has been great seeing
more of her family now that she is
back in Virginia. In her free time,
Perry volunteers for her sorority by
advising the UVA chapter.
Congratulations to Kay Gordon for
making the Ithaca College
Gymnastics Team again! After
spending her freshman year as an
Art History major, Alex Green has
changed her major to Historic
Preservation at the University of
Mary Washington. Even though we
wanted her to work at camp last
summer, we are happy to report that
Georgia Grey had a wonderful
summer traveling and studying at
Oxford. Hopefully Georgia will be
back at camp in 2011! As a
freshman at Florida State University,
Ciele Gutierrez is double majoring
in Theatre and Education. She
recently auditioned for the Film
School, hoping to be cast in one of
the student films. Ciele also joined
the University Sailing Club, so
perhaps she will be available to help
with sailing classes next summer!
The semester is already busy for
Catie Hancock, who has spent a lot
of time working in elementary
schools for her Education major at
Furman. She has one classroom of
first graders and another with infants
and toddlers who have special
needs. She loves being in the
classroom and can’t wait to start her
own teaching career! In her “spare”
time, Catie has been heavily
involved in a fundraising event for
her sorority’s philanthropy. Service
for Sight promotes eye protection
awareness and benefits the blind
community. Catie and her sorority
sisters raised $6,000 for the cause!
Working as an RA is a big job—just
ask Oksana Henry. She is juggling
RA responsibilities while also taking
the combination of nursing classes
and Russian classes. Oksana is also
looking into study abroad programs
and is excited for another summer at
Merrie-Woode. Though Kelli
Hewitt is glad to be home in
Australia after months at camp, she
misses everyone at Merrie-Woode
terribly. She plans to visit Lucy
Wood before Christmas, and we
hope to see her in the states for a
visit within the next few years.
Don’t forget about us, Kelli! Though
they are sad without Laughlin
Kane, who is studying in Madrid
this semester, Maggie Niehaus and
Sarah Josey are enjoying their
junior year at Wake Forest. Maggie
and Sarah keep busy babysitting for
Walker Freeman Jones’ baby girl,
Frazier. Ellie Lee says not much is
new with school at College of
Charleston, but she was excited to
have a visit from Megan McCall a
few weekends ago. School is
gaining momentum for James
Luby, who recently finished training
for his RA position at UCLA.
Classes have started, and he is
looking forward to planning some
exciting programs for his building’s
residents. He is having a good first
quarter of school and is particularly
interested in his classes on
archeology, Jazz in American
culture, and global warming/climate
change. In his spare time, James has
been practicing hard with the sailing
team. Caity Mans is interning with
the Saint Augustine Lighthouse and
Museum while still juggling her

Donna Nash and Sarah Chatel

Wynn, Rachel Garrett, Caroline
Reeves, and Lillie Cochran. Come
support Jessica Bowers in her
senior art show entitled “Renovating
Existence.” The show will be
exhibited in Clemson’s Lee Gallery
December 6-10 with a reception
December 10 from 7-9pm. Kaye
Burch is still working hard on her
graduate degree in Spanish at
Georgia Southern University. While
she takes her own graduate classes,
Kay is busy teaching two
undergraduate Spanish classes.
College of Charleston seems to be
the home of so many Merrie-Woode
staff members this year! Caroline
Carnahan is the Philanthropic
Chair for Theta this semester. When
she is not busy with her sorority
work, Caroline runs into Campbell
Bowers, Tee Bowers, Ellie Lee, and
Mallie Salerno. Although it is
plenty of work, Sarah Chatel’s first
semester at Converse College is
going well. She is quite busy with
the Converse Equestrian Team, but
she is making many friends and
loving school. This semester, Eliza
Coker is enjoying her study abroad
program in Rome, Italy. In August,
Riley Dickey graduated with
Honors from Air Force Basic
Training and is currently in Tech
School in west Texas. Starting in
March, Riley will be stationed at
Buckley Airforce Base, which is just

Elisabeth Foster, Callie McCraney,
and Maddie Williams

3
Jody Shartle Anderson (42-46) swam at a national Masters Short Course Swim Meet in Atlanta this past May, following her 80th birthday. The meet was held at the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center, which was where the Olympic swimming events were held in 1996. In her events, Jody came in second place three times, third place once, and fourth place once. Congratulations, Jody! We’re happy to see that your Merrie-Woode spirit is still going strong! Lisa Barrett (94-97) is working in Los Angeles as a screenwriter and Vice President of Development for a film and television production company. Betsy Beveridge (95-05) is enjoying living in Baltimore where
she is working in the Admissions Office at McDaniel College, her alma mater. Clare Block (97-01) is an account coordinator at a biotech PR firm in San Diego, CA. Audrey Block (99-02) is a student at St. Louis University where she is working towards a degree in Physical Therapy. Alex and Sarah Nash Bumpas (87-98) traveled on a fifteen day safari in Tanzania, Africa this past June. They saw a wide range of wild animals on the trip and enjoyed visiting a local school, hunting with Hadzabe bushmen, and doing beadwork with Masai women. It was an amazing trip, and they treasure the experience. Mary Jane Alvater Caison (54) celebrated her 70th birthday at camp this past summer in High Heaven. Her daughters, Barrie Caison Benson (81-85) and Cammie Caison Camp (76-82) both attended with their families. Darden Callaway (01-07) was awarded the prestigious John Montgomery Belk scholarship to Davidson College. Former mountaineering counselor, Tom Copeland (06-07), is enjoying his job as a high school science teacher in Asheville, NC. Mary Stuart Couch Hurst (94-07) enjoyed spending a weekend at camp this past spring with a group of friends including her sister, Franny Couch (97-06), and fellow Merrie-Woode girls, Mary Coleman Rogers (94-07) and Carter Coker (93-08). Carter is staying busy studying law at Vanderbilt University. Conley Crimmins (99-04) has started her sophomore year at Wake Forest University. Patricia Evans Denz (88-95) and her husband, Peter, are living in Cary, NC. Patricia works as a Major Gifts Coordinator with Hospice of Wake County where they just finished construction on the first freestanding Hospice home in the area. Whitney Dunlap (89-04) is in Durham, working at Duke in the athletics department. Having recently graduated from Beacon College, Chelsea Eubank (99-01) is busy managing her clothing company, Faithful Fish. Last year, Chelsea made the finals of the Student Global Entrepreneur Award sponsored by Mercedes Benz. She competed against 1,300 students from around the world and made it into the top 30. She is also working as Seventeen magazine’s online money advisor. Lauren Thomas Flores (84-97), Meredith McKenney Clayton (84-95) and Molly McKenney Flourney (83-87) recently enjoyed a weekend together at Callaway Gardens with family and friends. The weekend highlight was a huge tailgate at the Auburn-Clemson game. They will soon be searching for a boys’ camp for their sons, who turned 5 over the summer. Lauren has recently accepted the position of the Director of Development for The Westminster Fund. She is excited to join the Westminster community - one that has so many ties to Merrie-Woode! Jennifer Glasse (97-04) spent the summer training at the highly esteemed Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago, founded in part by Gary Sinise and John Malkovich. Former counselor and jewelry instructor, Siri Hiltz (07-08), has started grad school at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver where she is studying library science. Ainsley Hines (87-98) recently got together with a big group of camp friends. She enjoyed visiting with Emily Pittman Funderburk (87-01), Catherine Carr (87-95), Liz Landry (89-01), Sarah Nash Bumpas (87-98), Schaap Freeman Fouse (90-95), Ashley Smith Thompson (86-98), Elizabeth Dempsey Merritt (88-98), Evelyn Simmons Kissel (88-95), and Kelley Landry Doiron (88-00). Jenn Hobby (88-95) co-hosted Live With Regis and Kelly with Regis Philbin on August 20, 2010. She works regularly as the co-host of The Bert Show, a radio program out of Atlanta. Sarah Johnson (98-03) has graduated from Princeton University with a degree in Art History and Archeology. She spent the summer on a dig in Syria and will be starting a job in August with Edelman PR in New York City. McKinley Kane (96-02) graduated from Wake Forest University this year while her sister, Laughlin Kane (97-08), has entered her junior year at Wake Forest. Lauren Kelley (98-02) graduated from Rollins College in May of 2009 with a degree in Art History. She has moved to Charleston, SC where she is taking classes in Historic Preservation at the College of Charleston. Elizabeth Kennedy (98-05) is working for Chanel in Charleston, SC. Avery Harrelson Jones’ (84-99) son, Thompson, flying over Lake Fairfield in a helicopter.
Emily Williams King (90-01) and her family moved back to Raleigh, NC after living in Houston, TX for the past five years. Emily is working as a psychologist for children, adolescents, and families with Southeast Family Services of Raleigh. She is excited to be closer to family again, and to camp! Maryanna Phillips Koehring (82-95) and her family are enjoying a beautiful New England autumn in the small town of Essex Junction, Vermont.

Liz Lee (93-08) has accepted a job working for Exxon Mobil in Houston, TX. She will begin in May of 2011. Elissa McCarty (95-03) competed last May in the 2010 Warrior Dash, an extreme thrill seeking obstacle course race, with her boyfriend’s mother, Bonnie Miller. Elissa graduated from Le Cordon Bleu culinary school in August and is now a chef at Cherokee Town and Country Club in Atlanta. They have been voted “Best Country Club” in the nation since 1997. Clare McKenzie (99-07) is working for Vintage 59 wine importers in Washington, D.C. Cece Montgomery (04-05) is one of a select group of students to complete the National Ballet Training Program at Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Ballet School at American Ballet Theatre in New York City. In July 2010, Cece accepted an eight month position with the Studio Company of Colorado Ballet in Denver. She is a senior in high school at Professional Children’s School in New York City and will return to NYC in March. Cece enjoyed having Elizabeth Rawlings (04-present) visit her in New York this year.

Nina Montgomery (04-06) is New Jersey’s Junior Miss 2010 and a freshman at Dartmouth College. She is a national spokesperson for Wired Safety and will be starting the first national live hot line for internet bullying through Wired Safety at Dartmouth. Nina enjoyed visiting Ciele Guiteriez (04-present) in Miami this past winter.

Anna Katherine Moore (00-08) is working at the Orlando Shakespeare Theatre as a stage management apprentice. Former counselor, Barry Neely (01-02), composed the music for the feature film, Escape From Darwin. The film won “Best Action Movie” at both the New York International Film Festival and Indie Gathering Festival. Amber Skye (97-08) is busy working on her music career in New York City and lives only a block away from Calvert Coley (96-04). A five song album will be released this fall which includes the song “Locked in Love,” which became so popular at camp this past summer. She will also be launching her website this fall: www.amberskyemusic.com.

Sarah Palmer (96-98) moved to New York City this past summer. Stephanie Pate (00-06) is working for North Cascades Institute, an educational non-profit organization in North Cascades National Park in Washington state. She is teaching groups of 5th graders as they spend three day trips in the park learning about the natural history of the area. Stephanie is also studying for her Masters in Environmental Education at Western Washington University.

Jane Potts (63-67) is living in Charleston, SC. Gretchen Presnell (95-96) is also living in Charleston, SC where she is enjoying her job as a first grade teacher.

Nicole Anaclerio Pryor (81-97) lives in Illinois with her husband, Billy, and three children. Billy was deployed to serve in Kuwait this past May.
Our prayers will be with the Pryor family while Billy serves in active duty. **Kelly Roberson (82-86)** and **Allison Almand Ezell (79-87)** and their families enjoyed spending some time together in Panama City, FL this summer. **Mary Coleman Rogers (94-07)** has moved to Atlanta for grad school to study Architecture at Georgia Tech. **Anna Salzillo (98-02)** is pursuing a modeling career. **Suzannah Simmons (92-93)** is living in Washington DC, where she is working as the executive assistant to the CEO and CFO of a small company that contracts with the government, as well as coordinating private events and parties. **Leigh Simon (95-99)** is completing her BA at Tulane University in Social Sciences and has plans to achieve her MSW in the UNC system.

Jeremy and **Liz Moore Uecker (90-99)** have moved to Chapel Hill, NC with their young daughter, Annie. **Ace Webre (91-05)** has finished grad school at NYU and is now teaching middle school in Alexandria, VA. **Natalie Williams (92-06)** graduated from USC’s Primary Care Physician Assistant Program this past May. She has now moved to Atlanta. John and **Edie Lainer Wright (83-90)** are living in San Antonio, TX where their two young boys, Jack and Whit, keep them busy. **Kady Yeomans (00-03)** spent the past summer studying archeology in the Mayan ruins of Belize.

**CMW Engagements and Weddings**

Former counselor, **Pamela Bennett (04-05)** was married to Mike Van Deelen. Chad Paris proposed to **Alison Chatel (97-08)** on the balcony of High Heaven on August 11th. **Mary Stuart Couch (94-07)** married Stuart Hurst in May. **Tait Davidson (89-98)** married Hunter Flint, brother of **Sarah Flint (98-00)**, at Merrie-Woode on October 9, 2010. **Ashley Garner (95-07)** married Joseph Dringo on September 18, 2010 in Orlando, FL. Her sisters, **Lindsay Garner Hostetler (92-present)** and **Kaley Garner (02-present)**, were in the wedding party. **Grey Gibson (95-96)** is engaged to be married. She will also be attending UNC - Kenan Flagler to earn an MBA. **Sarah Haman (96-08)** is engaged to Lee Collette, a graduate student at Appalachian State University. The wedding date is set for April 16, 2011 in Pittsboro, NC. **Laura Heyward (94-05)** married Corey Sturkie on April 10, 2010. **Katherine McDonough (95-06)** was her Maid of Honor. The newlyweds are living in West Columbia, SC. **Jenn Hobby (88-95)** is engaged to be married to Grant Rivera this fall. **Wright Kaminer (96-04)** is engaged to be married to Andrew Karlin in October. **Erin McGirt (94-99)** is engaged to be married. She will also be attending CMW Engagements and Weddings.

Jeremy and **Liz Moore Uecker (90-99)** have moved to Chapel Hill, NC with their young daughter, Annie. **Ace Webre (91-05)** has finished grad school at NYU and is now teaching middle school in Alexandria, VA. **Natalie Williams (92-06)** graduated from USC’s Primary Care Physician Assistant Program this past May. She has now moved to Atlanta. John and **Edie Lainer Wright (83-90)** are living in San Antonio, TX where their two young boys, Jack and Whit, keep them busy. **Kady Yeomans (00-03)** spent the past summer studying archeology in the Mayan ruins of Belize.

**CMW Engagements and Weddings**

Former counselor, **Pamela Bennett (04-05)** was married to Mike Van Deelen. Chad Paris proposed to **Alison Chatel (97-08)** on the balcony of High Heaven on August 11th. **Mary Stuart Couch (94-07)** married Stuart Hurst in May. **Tait Davidson (89-98)** married Hunter Flint, brother of **Sarah Flint (98-00)**, at Merrie-Woode on October 9, 2010. **Ashley Garner (95-07)** married Joseph Dringo on September 18, 2010 in Orlando, FL. Her sisters, **Lindsay Garner Hostetler (92-present)** and **Kaley Garner (02-present)**, were in the wedding party. **Grey Gibson (95-96)** is engaged to be married. She will also be attending UNC - Kenan Flagler to earn an MBA. **Sarah Haman (96-08)** is engaged to Lee Collette, a graduate student at Appalachian State University. The wedding date is set for April 16, 2011 in Pittsboro, NC. **Laura Heyward (94-05)** married Corey Sturkie on April 10, 2010. **Katherine McDonough (95-06)** was her Maid of Honor. The newlyweds are living in West Columbia, SC. **Jenn Hobby (88-95)** is engaged to be married to Grant Rivera this fall. **Wright Kaminer (96-04)** is engaged to be married to Andrew Karlin in October. **Erin McGirt (94-99)** is engaged to be married. She will also be attending CMW Engagements and Weddings.
and was married in September of 2010. **Meg Roach (90-00)** married Captain Sam Booth on September 5, 2010 in a small ceremony with family in Richmond, VA. Sam deploys for Afghanistan in October and will be gone until next August. Our thoughts and prayers will be with Meg and Sam while he serves overseas. **Elizabeth Tessier (94-02)** married Mr. Joseph Paul Crescenzo, III on April 10, 2010 in New Orleans, LA. The couple is now living in Houston, TX.

**CMW Births**

Former counselor, **Juli Warfel Bitler (98)**, and her husband, Rob, welcomed their first child, Harrison, on January 14, 2010. **Josie Bray (99-02)** and her husband, Jack, are expecting their first child at the end of November. Burney and **Mary Craven Hines Dawkins (92-95)** have welcomed their first child, Johnsie Claire Dawkins.

**Courtenay McCormick Fain (80-84) and her husband, Baron,**

**Colleen Kerney’s (92-00) daughter, Ada Dove Alexander**

**Laurie Easterwood Smith’s (01-06) son, Finn**

**Joseph and Elizabeth Tessier Crescenzo (94-02)**

**Sam and Meg Roach Booth (99-00)**

**Hunter and Tait Davidson Flint (89-98) on the Camp Merrie-Woode dock**

**Tatia McMillan (07-08) and her fiancé, Jason Gibson**

**Andrew Karlin and Wright Kaminer (96-04) at their October 29th Rehearsal Dinner**

**Meg Roach Booth (99-00)** and **Joseph and Elizabeth Tessier Crescenzo (94-02)** have a new addition to their family! They welcomed their son, Taliiferro “Tradd” Rice Fain, into the world on May 25, 2010. **Lesley Schrader Flynn (82-94)** is working as a
Barbara Lizora Schoolfield Miller (26-28), born October 29, 1913, passed away this October in Richmond, VA. She was 96 years old. She enjoyed spending her camper days in the 1920’s at Merrie-Woode with her two sisters, Jane and Frank.

Elizabeth “Bette” Thompson Gates Neal (92-96) passed away on Wednesday, June 9, 2010. She was 90 years old. Bette was the head of the weaving program here at Merrie-Woode from 1992 through 1996. Bette was known around camp not only for her beautiful weaving, but her quick wit and the many silver bracelets that adorned her wrists.

Both of these women will be missed by the Merrie-Woode family.

In Memoriam

Walker Freeman Jones’ (93-04) daughter, Frazier Dibrell Jones

Henry and Wade Van Horn, sons of Betsy Hassinger Van Horn (93-97)

Kris Bell Humphreys’ (87-99) son, William Preston Humphreys, V

Johnsie Claire Dawkins, daughter of Mary Craven Hines Dawkins (92-95)

Bette Neal (92-96), busy in the Weaving Hut
High Heaven Renovations Underway!

Good news: High Heaven is getting a face lift! Built decades ago, High Heaven originally served as the Executive Directors’ home. These days, High Heaven serves as a rental facility for alumnae groups. The facility is well loved and has served generations of happy Merrie-Woode families, but it is time for some much needed updates. Thanks to many of you who have given feedback on High Heaven’s condition, we have a multi-step plan for the renovation.

First, the project includes freshening up the bedrooms and living room. We will update the blinds and the bedding to make each room a little more modern but still quite homey. The outdoor staircase and deck railings will have some work in order to make them more sturdy and safe. There are also some roof repairs included in the proposed work that will help the house stay warm and well insulated in the winter.

The majority of High Heaven’s renovation will occur within the kitchen. The long, narrow room will be gutted completely in order to reconfigure its layout, making for a more user-friendly space. Once the space is more accessible, new cabinets and appliances will be added. The finishing touches include freshly stocked dishes, stemware, and cooking tools.

We expect the work to be complete by mid February, and we can’t wait for you to see the updated High Heaven. If you are interested in renting the facility, please call Phyllis in the Main Office (828-743-3300).

And if that’s not enough, we have another new rental facility to introduce! As you may remember, our facilities crew built the new cabin of Avalon last year and spent much of the spring renovating the old one. Now called Merlin’s Alderley Edge, the old Avalon is now a winterized duplex that can be used year-round.

In the summer, Alderley Edge houses some of our more mature staff members who no longer live in cabins with campers. In the off season, the duplex will be available for rental. Each side of the duplex houses one queen-sized bed, a breakfast table with 2 chairs, a kitchenette, a full bathroom, and a spacious closet. Call Phyllis at the Main Office (828-743-3300) to book Merlin’s Alderley Edge!

Merlin’s Alderley Edge

We’ve Lost These Alumnae!

We are looking for any current contact information or news for the following lost alumnae. Please call the camp office or email Lindsay Garner Hostetler at lindsay@merriewoode.com if you have any updates!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years at Merrie-Woode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mamrie Hart</td>
<td>2002 – 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Hopkins</td>
<td>1962 – 1965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lang King</td>
<td>1962 – 1964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gail Linder</td>
<td>1962 – 1965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pam Lund</td>
<td>1962 – 1966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cackie Miller</td>
<td>1962 – 1968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chesney Guyon</td>
<td>1962 – 1965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suzie Hanson Deal</td>
<td>1962 – 1967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lane Winn</td>
<td>1963 – 1966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bevelle White Puffer</td>
<td>1964 – 1969</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Old Hill Cabins Receive a Much Needed Facelift

Merrie-Woode’s facilities crew has been working hard this fall to spruce up the cabins of Briar Patch, Doxology, and Buckingham Palace. These hill cabins are the only cabins left in camp that have not been rebuilt in the past ten years. Though they are still structurally sound and sturdy, over the years they have started looking pretty run down. The amount of graffiti that had accumulated over the decades had gotten to the point where it made the cabins feel old, dingy, and cluttered. The cabins have now received newly recovered interior walls and ceiling boards, new window trim and beams, updated bathrooms and shower areas, new cubby units, and resurfaced floors. The difference has been astonishing. The renovated cabins feel bigger and brighter, though the footprints of the buildings remain the same.

Time was also taken in Doxology to change the floor plan of the cabin. The interior of the cabin was previously split into two sides of bunks with a bathroom in between. Campers and counselors of Doxology have complained for many years that this created two individual groups within the cabin, making it hard to bond as a cohesive cabin unit. By moving the location of the bathroom, the design will now be similar to the other hill cabins with a much more open floor plan. Hill cabin residents of the 2011 summer will feel like they have brand new cabins to enjoy!

We’re Looking for Doctors in the CMW Family!

Merrie-Woode has been very fortunate to have some of the finest doctors volunteer their time at camp each summer. We rely on our camp doctors and nurses to keep us healthy all summer long. We have a medical facility just 3 miles from camp, but it is important for us to have medical staff available to campers and staff on site.

Camp doctors are generally alumnae, parents, and grandparents from within the camp family who wish to volunteer for a week here at Merrie-Woode. The doctor of the week stays in High Heaven (CMW’s guest lodge), with his/her family, and should be available for consultations with campers and staff. The doctor works closely with camp’s registered nurses located in Cloud 9 (camp’s infirmary). We welcome doctors of all specialties who enjoy working with children.

If you are a doctor and are interested in lending a hand next summer, please call or email Denice at the camp office (828-743-3300) or denice@merriewoode.com. We would love for you to join us beneath Old Bald!
Reaching the 2010 Annual Fund Goal!

It’s not too late to contribute to this year’s Annual Fund! Our 2010 goal is $100,000 and currently, we are just over $71,000 in gifts to the Merrie-Woode Foundation. Your support helps to provide excellence in the camping experience; from staffing and programming, to facility improvements and camperships. This year, in light of the economic situation, Merrie-Woode has allotted additional funds to go towards the 2011 camperships. Camperships assist families in making the Merrie-Woode experience a reality for their girls each summer. All participants and a full report will be published in the spring 2011 newsletter.

Gifts to the Merrie-Woode Foundation are tax deductible for individuals, corporations and foundations within the limits of section 501(c) (3) of the IRS code. 2010 Annual Fund gifts can be mailed to Camp Merrie-Woode, 100 Merrie-Woode Road, Sapphire, NC 28774 or given online using PayPal. Go to our website www.merriewoode.com, then go to the Alumnae tab, scroll down to Annual Fund, and click “donate.”

Guess Who is Joining the 2011 Drama Staff?!

Since Jim and Denice’s boys are out of the house, they have taken up a new hobby. That’s right, Jim and Denice are trying out their acting skills, and rumor has it that they are quite talented.

The excitement began when Jim auditioned for Clarence Day’s Life With Father at the Martin Lipscomb Performing Arts Center in Highlands, NC. The production is part of the Highlands community theater, and Jim thought it would be the best way to get a taste of theater. Though we all thought he would surely clinch a leading role, Jim was assigned the “supporting” part of Dr. Sommers. We are pleased to announce that Jim was officially off book in one day, having perfected his single line (“How do you do?”) in no time. Having nailed his part early in rehearsals, Jim soon added a second line (“Excuse me”) to his already meaty performance. Not only is he an accomplished actor, but now he’s trying his hand in script writing!

Within days after Jim’s audition, the Director of Life With Father called Denice to offer her a cameo in the play. One of the maids quit the production so Denice joined in, as well. Though Denice does not have any lines, she is a crucial member of the cast. Denice’s character, Delia, is responsible for helping the other maids set the tables for meals and bring tea to the more prominent characters. It is quite a job! Luckily Denice’s years of setting dining hall tables are paying off.

We can’t wait to see the final production of Life With Father and look forward to the Dunns’ next theatrical endeavor. And who knows, if we are short staffed in Drama this summer, maybe they will lend a hand!
Exciting Changes to the Full Time Merrie-Woode Staff

As many of you may remember, Christina Daniels resigned as our Development and Programming Director at the beginning of this year to focus on her job at home of raising a family. After much thought and consideration, we are thrilled to announce that Lindsay Garner Hostetler has become our new Development and Alumnae Relations Director. Lindsay was a camper from 1993 through 1996. She began her Merrie-Woode career as a CA in 2000, and has been working year-round in the camp office for almost five years now. In addition to her new responsibilities in Development, she will continue to work with Alumnae Relations and the ongoing camp archiving project. Lindsay will also maintain her position as the director of camp’s theatre program, a position she has held for eight years. We are excited to see Lindsay’s role here at Merrie-Woode grow as she takes on this new challenge. The programming responsibilities will be distributed among the senior staff and a seasonal Programming Director will be appointed to assist during the summer months.

We are also delighted to announce the addition of a new member to our Facilities Crew. Jody Pressley joined the year round staff of Merrie-Woode before this past summer. Jody comes to us with years of experience working with construction and excavation equipment. The Pressleys have a long standing history with Camp Merrie-Woode. Jody’s brother, Cory, has been working on the Facilities Crew for the past four years. Their uncle, James Pressley, was the camp’s caretaker from 1947 – 1972. Some of the projects James contributed to in camp were the building of Chapel, the stone pillars for the original camp gate, and the construction of Camelot and the big back line cabins. We are thrilled to have a new generation of Pressleys continue the family’s legacy at Merrie-Woode.

2009-2010 Board of Trustees

Elizabeth (Liz) Counce Irwin
Chairman
Essex Fells, NJ

Nancy Dameron Almquist
Atlanta, GA

Adelaide Davenport Bratcher
Lookout Mountain, TN

Edgar A.G. Bright, III
New Orleans, LA

James (Jimmy) Broughton
Winston-Salem, NC

Vernon (Vee) Smith Chandler
Burlington, NC

Sylvia Sparkman Coker
Bluffton, SC

Wynn Gregory Dorsett
Raleigh, NC

Allison Almand Ezell
Atlanta, GA

Elizabeth (Boo) Tyler Kennedy
Savannah, GA

Clair Freeman Marshall
Raleigh, NC

George D. Pillow, Jr.
Killen, AL

Elizabeth Simpson Poynor
Birmingham, AL

Edward (Ed) Owen Savitz
Tampa, FL

Mary Davis McLendon Smart
Charlotte, NC

Stephen B. Straske
Tampa, FL
Around Camp 2010

The new Captains of 2010

The King’s Players of 2010

The new Main Session Horsemasters of 2010 are welcomed by the current Horsemasters in camp

June Session campers enjoying some shade by the archery field

August Session campers at Captain Rainbow’s dance party

The June Session Horsemasters of 2010
Retiring Board Members Replaced by Three New Members

At the Annual Meeting of the Merrie-Woode Foundation, Chairman Liz Counce Irwin and the Board of Trustees recognized three Board members who have completed their terms of outstanding service to the Merrie-Woode Foundation: George Pillow, who served as the Board’s Treasurer, served on the Facilities Committee and was Chair of the Finance Committee; Vee Smith Chandler, who served on the Audit and Facilities Committees and was Chair of the Nominating Committee; and Adelaide Davenport Bratcher, who served on the Programming Committee and was Chair of the Development Committee. The Merrie-Woode family is grateful for their dedication and effort.

We welcome three newly elected Board Trustees: Melanie Halsey Crittenden, of Richmond, Virginia. Melanie is an alumna and assisted with camp’s “Place of Rarest Beauty – the final piece” campaign. Her daughters Lindsay, Alexis, and Melanie have been campers, and Melanie’s mother, sisters, cousins, and nieces have all attended Merrie-Woode. V. Larkin Martin, also an alumna, joins the Board from Courtland, Alabama. Larkin was a camper herself and her daughter, Virginia Thornton, is a current camper in the Main session. Larkin’s mother and sister also attended camp. The third new Board member is Brien Peterkin of Cashiers, North Carolina. Brien and his wife, alumna Sallie Orr Peterkin, daughter of Dottie and Fritz Orr, Jr. had two daughters who attended camp, Mary and Amanda. The Board of Trustees welcomes Melanie, Larkin, and Brien.

Attention All Half-Wit Girls!

We often wonder where our favorite camp songs came from and why they are so popular around camp. Our favorites have funny titles and silly words; they include ridiculous hand motions and way too much repetition. And yet, we can’t get enough of our camp songs!

Some of our songs are somewhat new to camp. They cropped up when campers and counselors took the initiative to teach us a new one at Castle. “Princess Pat,” which was brought to us by beloved counselor Sloan Kass and “Bolling Green,” from Doug Cameron, are both relatively new to camp tradition.

Other songs have been around longer than any current summer residents of Merrie-Woode can remember. During our 2010 Main Session, we had the special privilege of hearing Martha Simpkins Davis and Jill Crawford sing “Grays and Greens,” which they adapted from “New Orleans.” When they were preparing for banquet years ago, the ladies changed the words of Louis Armstrong’s 1947 song to reflect campers’ love for Merrie-Woode. It was a treat to hear how the song quickly became popular throughout camp, and after listening to “Grays and Greens,” we started wondering about other songs in Merrie-Woode’s collection.

Now it’s your turn to tell us the story behind a camp song! We would love to hear what your favorite camp song is and how it came to be part of the Merrie-Woode repertoire. For example, tell us who was involved in writing a song for banquet or evening program. If you brought a song to camp and taught it to everyone, let us know where you learned it and why you decided to share it with Merrie-Woode. If we receive some interesting stories, we will publish them in the next newsletter for everyone to enjoy! So, keep singing those camp classics and contact us when you get a chance!

Post stories on our facebook page: Camp Merrie-Woode, The Merrie-Woode Foundation or email (lindsay@merriewoode.com). You are always welcome to send us a good ‘ole fashioned letter to: Camp Merrie-Woode, 100 Merrie-Woode Road, Sapphire, NC 28774.
Can’t Think of the Perfect Gift for your Merrie-Woode Girl …

We are thrilled to assist with a few ideas. Our favorite idea is the Camp Merrie-Woode sterling silver pin. At the request of numerous alumnae, this retired CMW pin was commissioned for the 90th Anniversary Celebration. The CMW pin measures 1 ½ x 1” in dimension and is selling at a cost of $150.00. This pin is available through camp.

If you are shopping for your favorite camper, we have Chug-A-Wump CDs, afghans, fleece blankets, Crazy Creeks, baseball caps, water bottles, frog pillows, and much more. We also have Merrie-Woode coffee mugs and travel mugs for your favorite alumna. Some of our smaller items make great stocking stuffers! Please contact Phyllis at 828-743-3300 or Phyllis@merriewoode.com, she’ll be happy to assist you.