

Up-coming Free Local Mission Opportunities

By: Micah Metheny

We have three CAM camps lined up for this summer. For all those who haven't ever attended a camp it is a very rewarding experience where you can really become a servant. The following are the dates for this years' CAMp's:

- June 18-21
- July 9-12
- August 6-9

Each camp begins about 8:30 PM on Wednesday and will conclude Saturday about 8:30 PM. The first camp will be hosted by Alameda Church of Christ.

If you are interested in participating in any of the camps, now is the time to sign-up for them. We will be able to accept the first 30 participants that sign-up and after that we will add people to a waiting list just in case someone has to cancel. Due to the generosity of others, all the camps are free. Deadline to sign up for each camp is one week before the camps.

During the three days of volunteering at each camp, we will break down into small groups to help non-profit agencies, hospice patients and widows. We really get to know each other and fellowship with other believers, regardless of denomination, who really have a heart for serving. We have a couple of main goals for the camps: first, to lift up and teach each other while growing in the process, secondly to show people outside of the camp that there is more to Christians than the stereotype and that we have a heart for others. We are "Putting Skin on the Gospel".

Each participant must have an up-dated 2003 parent permission form on file one week before the camp. The form **MUST BE NOTERIZED**. The form will be good for each event CAM hosts during the year 2003. For those that need a form, please call Donna Hooper at 329-8041.

We hope that you can join us at the camps and experience a very up lifting week.

YAC

By: Lindsay Finley

What is YAC? The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is a group of leaders wanting to make a difference in their community. They find their leadership skills by doing devotions, helping with the CAMp's, leading in music, writing articles (like I am now) and much, much more. YAC makes sure that participants of CAM are aware of the upcoming events that CAM hosts and sends birthday cards to participants that are having a birthday. YAC is opened to all CAM participants who are between the age of thirteen

and twenty-one. Anyone that is interested in becoming a YAC participant must fill-out an intense form and then go through an interview process with part of the Board Members. If you are interested in becoming a part of the YAC you may contact Donna Hooper at 329-8041. This is a small portion of what YAC is all about.

This newsletter will introduce you to all of Community Action Ministries, Inc. Board Members

Meet One of Our Longest Acting 0CAM Board Members

By: Melissa Pearl McNatt

Natalie Claflin and Donna Hooper became close friend in 1997 while ministering together in a small church. Natalie and Donna Hooper were accountability partners, meeting once a week to study the word of God and challenge each other to serve God to the best of their ability, before God placed the vision of Community Action Ministries on Jerry and Donna's hearts. After the ministry was born, Donna asked if Natalie would be interested in helping out with the teenage participants.

Soon thereafter, Natalie became an official board member. She and her husband Brandon have since moved to Tulsa, so that Brandon could enter into medical school. Natalie is currently working for Therapy Works as an occupational therapist in the public school system. Throughout her career, she has worked with a broad spectrum of ages in a variety of settings including in-patient rehab, nursing homes, and public schools. She enjoys working with kids with special needs and helping them benefit from their special education.

Natalie and Brandon are expecting their first child in June. "This is," she says, "what I've dreamed of and wanted for a long time, so I'm very grateful, humbled, and excited that it's finally coming true!" They have chosen not to know the sex of their child until he or she is born. I asked what names they had picked out; she said that they didn't know for sure, but are considering Elizabeth or Benjamin.

When I asked about how she saw her part of CAM in the future, she said that she intends to continue serving on the board and supporting the ministry as much as she possibly can. One way she intends to do this is being part of the CAMps in coming summers.

Melissa Pearl McNatt

Jerry and Donna Hooper: The Brains Behind the Organization

By: Christin Weber

I first met Jerry and Donna during the Spring Break Local Mission, 2002. It was my first CAM camp and I remember that I was extremely nervous because I only knew one other girl there. I also realized that we would most likely not be working together all three days. However, Jerry and Donna made the camp so much fun that I relaxed and was able to get to know many of the sixty other participants.

Jerry and Donna Hooper have been married for almost 17 years. They met in 1985 and were married in 1986. They have two daughters, Alysa, 8 1/2; and Abigale, 7, whom they have home schooled since 1999. Donna has also been a participant of Norman Network of Youth Ministries since 1997 and became the coordinator in 2000, as well as the Secretary of the Board and Executive Director of Community Action Ministries (CAM) since 1999. Jerry has served as President of CAM since it was founded. He also owns his own sound company, Hooper Sound Production Services. He provides sound services for community events and festivals. He also installs sound systems for churches and businesses. This past year he traveled around the United States with Fox Sports Network helping to provide sound for Big 12 college football games.

During their first 13 years of marriage, the Hooper's were involved in several ministries that brought the Body of Christ together in various avenues, such as street ministry and running a Christian entertainment center. They continued to search for way to involve the different churches to live out the commission that Christ has called us all to fulfill. They began the paper work required of the government to start a 501-C-3 non-profit ministry in April of 1999, and hosted their first camp in the same year. Since then, CAM has hosted 11 camps which has provided approximately 6,100 hours of community service. During those 11 camps, participants have come to realize their need for Christ. Eight camp participants and one recipient have accepted Jesus as their Savior, while eleven others have made a recommitment to Him. Donna says that one of CAM's goals this summer is "to reach the unsaved for Christ and to help the saved realize that 'Putting Skin on the Gospel' and witnessing are very important parts of the Christian life". We have been very excited to have several CAM participants having an interest in foreign missions after their local mission experience.

The goal goes along with one of the verses CAM has adopted as a theme, which is James 2:14-17, "What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith, but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, 'Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

Meet One Couple that Recently Became CAM Board Members

By: Sara Torneten

Two of our newest CAM board members are Curtis and Barbara Williams. They became involved with CAM through their granddaughter and grandson, Lindsay and Drew Finley. The Williams became acquainted with Jerry and Donna Hooper through First

Freewill Baptist Church, while the Hooper's were filling in as interim youth ministers. As board members, they will make important decisions on CAM business as well as help cook at and supervise CAMps.

Mr. and Mrs. Williams are very involved at their church. They are on the benevolence committee, help cook the churches' Wednesday nights dinners, prepare funeral meals, help with the care ministry at the hospital, and Mr. Williams is also on the board of trustees.

Curtis and Barbara are blessed with a growing family; they have 2 granddaughters, along with grandkids Lindsay and Drew, a great-grandchild, and one more on the way! Gardening and "being retired!" are enjoyed by the Williams. As Mrs. Williams said, "We enjoy young people at church."

I look forward to meeting the Williams and appreciate their commitment to CAM.

Meet CAM's New Treasurer

By: Liqiao Ma

Jared Morgan has been with CAM since the first summer camp in August of 1999. He is 21 years old and graduates this May from OU with a B.S. in Spanish. Currently he is employed with Oklahoma Independent Automobile Dealers Association. He inputs information on the computer and helps in the finance end of the company. He enjoys reading and writing, as well as working with computers and attends First Free Will Baptist Church of Norman, where he is involved with the technology crew. Jared is very excited about being a member of CAM's Board. "It's exciting," he says, "I think I'll enjoy helping make 'the big decisions' and I imagine I'm going to learn a lot, too." The vision of CAM is to promote unification throughout the Church Body, according to Jared, and participating in the board of directors allows him to be involved with his vision.

Jared is contributing to CAM by keeping track of financial information. He believes that God will use him for a good purpose in the future and that being a young adult will help him reach out and connect with the teens.

Mr. Morgan also has a very exciting event coming up in his life. On Christmas Eve 2002, he proposed to Melissa McNatt, another member of CAM's YAC (Youth Advisory Council) team. He and Melissa met at the first summer camp, and got to know each other through working together at CAM. They plan to be married in April of 2004.

Meet Mike and Beth Sykes

By: Jerry Hooper

CAM, Inc. is very proud to introduce you to Mike and Beth Sykes, our newest members to the Board of Trustees. Mike is an insurance agent with Aflac. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Trevecca Nazarene University in 1994. Mike received the Lord during his teen years and has been active in the church leadership since 1978, mostly in the area of youth ministry.

Beth is a medical Technician at Norman Regional Hospital and also graduated from Trevecca in 1975. Beth was raised in a Christian home, where her father was a Nazarene pastor. She has known the Lord from a very early age.

Mike and Beth have three children, Jeff, Kevin, Julie, and one grandson, three month old William. Mike, Beth along with their daughter Julie, live in Norman.

We are very excited to have Mike and Beth join CAM, Inc. Board of Trustees. They will both bring a wealth of wisdom and insight as we continue to grow in our vision of "Putting Skin on the Gospel".

❑ Board Members:

Jerry Hooper- President

Natalie Claflin-Vice President

Donna Hooper-Secretary

Jared Morgan-Treasurer

Michael & Beth Sykes-Board of Trustees

Curtis & Barbara Williams-Board of Trustees

- ❑ Mission Statement: Community Action Ministries, Inc. is a non-profit parachurch organization providing the Body of Christ with ways to serve the community.
- ❑ Needs: weed-eaters, leaf rakes, wheel barrows, hedge trimmers, trash bags, extension cords
- ❑ If you would like to be added to the Phone Tree list or the e-mail grouping to keep up with the up-coming event please contact Donna Hooper at 329-8041
- ❑ Notice- CAM has a new e-mail address- **cam-inc@cox.net**