



2019-2020 Winter Edition

# Cal Farley's Alumni Newsletter

"If you want your child to love you, teach [them] to mind." –Cal Farley

## DALLAS GATHERING FEBRUARY 15th

The Annual Dallas Gathering will be held again at the Haggard Party Barn in Plano on Saturday, February 15th. Specifics (to date) are:

Date – Saturday, February 15th

Location – Haggard Party Barn: 5948 McKamy Trail, Plano, TX

Time – Start gathering around 6 p.m. Start serving around 6:30 p.m.

Food – Steaks catered by Brad Powell Catering

Cost – \$25/couple; \$15/individual; \$10/child (under 12); Under 6 / FREE

Presentation: **Lacey LaPoint** will bring a presentation on the new Boys Ranch Ag Barn

The annual Dallas Gathering will be held again at the Haggard Party Barn in Plano on February 15<sup>th</sup>. This is a great time to gather, not only with former residents of BR and GT, but to bring family members and others you may be talking to about the work of the CFBRAA. There will be an auction with all proceeds going to underwrite the work of the Association in helping the residents of the Alumni Support Center. We will have a special presentation about the new Ag Barn to be built at Boys Ranch, and how we might be a part of that. Mark it on your calendar and invite all you know.

**Reservations need to be turned in by TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11<sup>th</sup>**

Even if you are unable to attend, you can participate in the auction.

Go to the alumni website ([www.calfarleysalumni.com](http://www.calfarleysalumni.com))

to see the auction items and bid online.

<http://calfarley.org>

### Alumni Support Services

*Kim Reeves*

806-322-2531

[kimreeves@calfarley.org](mailto:kimreeves@calfarley.org)

### Newsletter

*Cheree Gilliam*

806-322-2645

[chereegilliam@calfarley.org](mailto:chereegilliam@calfarley.org)

Published Quarterly

All submissions and comments should be received  
NO LATER than April 15 to make it into the  
2020 Spring edition of the Alumni Newsletter.

## 2020 Calendar

Dallas Gathering – Feb 15

BR Prom – Feb 29

Houston Gathering – Mar 14

BR Graduation – May 23

Windstar, OK Strategic Planning

Session and Scholarship Golf

Tournament – June 12-13

(See Alumni website for Gathering details)

## Table of Contents

Dallas Gathering	1
Contact Info & Calendar	1
Condolences	2
Alumni Support Services	2
Christmas Lights Judging	2
Houston Gathering	2
President's Corner	3
Bob's Beat	3
Distinguished Alumni & Staff	3

## Condolences



**Sam Rhoades**  
Boys Ranch (10-12)  
January 26, 2020  
Duncanville, TX



**James Miner**  
Boys Ranch (51)  
December 13, 2019  
Duncanville, TX



**Merrell Johnson**  
Boys Ranch (45-47)  
October 28, 2019  
Springtown, TX



**Jason Moore**  
Boys Ranch (81-87)  
April 17, 2019  
Houston, TX



**Lawrence Nash**  
Boys Ranch (60-63)  
January 10, 2019  
Springtown, TX

BR/CSC  
Staff

**Lori Pletcher**  
January 16, 2020  
Amarillo, TX

BR  
Staff

**Mary Helen Jones**  
January 7, 2020  
Woodbury, TN

BR  
Staff

**Julian Martin**  
November 10, 2019  
Castroville, TX

BR  
Staff

**Troy Taylor**  
September 6, 2019  
Boerne, TX

BRISD  
Superin-  
tendent

**Hayden Willhite**  
January 10, 2019  
Vega, TX

Sympathy and prayers go out for **Robert Kurz** (87) on the recent loss of his wife. Please keep Robert and his family in your prayers today and in the days to come.

Prayers go out to **Michael Gregory** (56) on the loss of his wife, Jeanne. She passed on October 28, 2019 in Grovetown, Ga. Michael and Jeanne had been married 57 years.

## Houston Gathering

Anyone one in the Houston area please join us March 14, 2020 for a Gathering at Pappadeaux Seafood, 2525 South Loop W Freeway (Service road), Houston. Tentatively 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. Please let us know if you can make it. Text or call Sherry 214-384-5050 or Bobby 817-739-6590

## Alumni Support Services

Kim Reeves

Last month we said, "Until we meet again" to a precious friend and a mighty social worker, Lori Pletcher. Lori worked for Cal Farley's Boys Ranch for fourteen years before her sudden and untimely death in January.

Most of her tenure with us she spent on the front lines at the campus as a casemanager. But Lori wouldn't have said that she "worked" for Boys Ranch because for Lori, it wasn't work at all. It was a ministry. She loved our kids hard and they knew it. That love remained even after Lori moved to the Intake Department at the Campus Support Center several years ago.



The relationships she forged at the campus continued and flourished as her "little ones" from Boys Ranch grew into young adults. I watched Lori move kids into dorms, babysit for working mothers, furnish homes and even give away cars when she saw a need to be filled. She did this all off the clock.

Her love couldn't be contained by the bounds of a workday. True love can be called upon at any time and under any circumstance. Lori's kids knew her love was unconditional. How do we say "thank you" to someone who made love, helping others and serving look so effortless?

Thank you doesn't seem adequate for the legacy of love she left behind. We will forever see her smile in the faces of the children she helped raise. Lori had one biological child but she was the mother of many. Lori,

### Alumni Support Services

Kim Reeves

806-322-2531

[kimreeves@calfarley.org](mailto:kimreeves@calfarley.org)

thank you for showing us how it's done - you were the best of us.

## Christmas Light Judging 2019

Several Alumni participated in the Christmas Light Judging contest in December at the Ranch. Mike Pacino graciously drove the group around and everyone enjoyed seeing all of the many creative decorations.

Congratulations to all Homes that participated by decorating their beautiful Homes. It was a close race between the top several Homes. First Place went to Carter Home, second to Romersi Home and third to MF Home. Each received a certificate and a monetary prize.



**Cal Farley's Boys Ranch Alumni Association**  
[www.calfarleysalumni.com](http://www.calfarleysalumni.com)  
 Cal Farley's Boys Ranch  
 Alumni Association  
 PO Box 9435  
 Amarillo, TX 79105

**facebook**  
 Bobby Sarpalius, Executive Director  
[cfbraa@gmail.com](mailto:cfbraa@gmail.com)  
 817-739-6590

**THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER** by Jimmie Boatwright (70)



We hope everyone began the new year, both Happy and Healthy! We have a lot of things planned for 2020 and beyond so get on board with your Alumni Association and join us at any and all events you can attend!

On February 15, at the Dallas Gathering with a great meal, amazing auction items, a presentation with information about an upcoming project, the Gun and Safe Raffle drawings will be held with the winning numbers drawn. In March we will host a Houston Gathering during the Houston Stock Show and Rodeo. We are looking at Saturday, March 14, so watch the website and Facebook for times and place.

We received a very nice note from **Richard Strain** and his wife, the 19th boy to come to Boys Ranch in 1939. Richard, his wife and daughter, who all live in Germany, were able to attend the Reunion activities over Labor Day weekend. Richard loved showing his family where he grew up. They were able to attend many of the activities and to visited with lots of Alumni. We would like to thank all of the Boys Ranch Staff and Alumni that helped in any way to make their trip memorable for them.

We are proud to extend congratulations to the winners and everyone that competed in the Oldham County Stock Show recently. Grand Champion Sheep: **Cheyenne**, Reserve Fine Wool and Champion Senior Showman: **Connor**, Reserve Grand Goat; Champion and Reserve Pig; Champion Cross, Hampshire and Yorkshire; and Pig Showman: **Lani**, Champion Duroc: **Nate**, Reserve Hampshire: **Samantha**, Reserve Yorkshire: **Jonathan**. Congratulations also goes to their Ag Teacher, Mr. Scotty Wright, for his fine leadership.

**Bob's Bear**



Bobby Sarpalius (67)

**\*\*\* A very good year...**

Looking back at 2019 for the CFBRAA prompts both joy and concern. This was a remarkable year for the Association.

We grew our membership and have done some very positive work. We have contributed to Cal Farley's over \$20K, primarily to helping new graduates and residents of the Alumni Support Center, as well as underwriting the maintenance of the BR Cemetery. In addition, we have helped send ten students to college and another ten families in crisis situations. We held gatherings in Dallas, Austin, Florida and Oklahoma, as well as the annual reunion in Amarillo. We held two golf tournaments and raised nearly \$30K for scholarships and the Boys Ranch Cemetery / Veterans Memorial. We continue to do very good work as family to brothers and sisters all over the country, and the world. It has been a good year; not as good as 2020 is going to be; but a very good year.

\*\*\*\*\*

**DISTINGUISHED STAFF and ALUMNI**

Nominations for the 2020 Distinguished Staff and Distinguished Alumni need to be turned in by April 1<sup>st</sup>. You can find nomination forms and policies on the Alumni website: [www.calfarleysalumni.com](http://www.calfarleysalumni.com)