

CAP Connection



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Summer 2006

Regional Partners expand volunteer recruiting

Enthusiasm and experience fuel CAP's new Regional Partners as they launch a fresh endeavor for the Volunteer Program. In April, five former volunteers (and one soon-to-exit volunteer) returned to Kentucky for orientation to their new role – to recruit future volunteers in the regions where they live. It's a way to share their experiences and give back to CAP.

"Alumni are such a tremendous asset because they have walked the walk," says Kim Otto, Manager of Volunteer Recruitment and Admissions. She sees alumni as people who can share their own volunteer stories and inspire others to commit to volunteer service.

The six gathered to learn about what CAP and volunteer life are like today and they explored different ways of recruiting. The regional partners are working as

independent contractors who dedicate approximately 20 hours a month to setting up booths at volunteer fairs, visiting local churches, contacting high schools and colleges and spreading the word about CAP. Many former volunteers help recruit new volunteers and are encouraged to continue to do so. Having a handful of Regional Partners helps the Volunteer Program coordinate all recruiting efforts.

Kim says it's important for CAP to creatively approach recruiting

volunteers in today's climate; Appalachia is not in the mind of the public as much these days and there are many more organizations that offer volunteer opportunities. Enlisting the assistance of former volunteers as Regional Partners, Kim says, is a great way to help overcome the recruiting challenges

CAP faces. CAP is one of the first organizations to hire alumni as independent contractors to recruit.

Kori and Tyler Hudock, who volunteered from '04 – '05 in Housing, are two of the Regional Partners. They decided to be Regional Partners because they believe in CAP's mission and feel God's hand is guiding CAP.

"We found it hard not to be an active part of CAP. Somehow, part of our hearts stayed with CAP in Kentucky and when the recruiting opportunity came up, we felt it was an answer to our prayers!" says Kori.

She recognized opportunities for recruiting even before the job opened. She often encountered folks in the grocery store, dentist office and other common places



Regional Partners include: Front — Kori Hudock (Pa.) and Laurie (Thibedeau) Bauer (Colo.); Back — Tyler Hudock, John Schmitt (Wis.) and Katie Klister (Mass.). Chad Bauer is not pictured.

Kids draw them back to camp

It all seemed to be coincidence. But when she walked into a table, knocked off some flyers and then picked them up, Vinnie Caputo found something she would come to love. The flyer asked: Do you like kids? Do you like the outdoors? She answered yes then she contacted CAP about volunteering at summer camp.



Four Kluesener siblings (Patrick, Moe, Erin and Louis) worked together during one week at Camp A.J.

That was last year. This year, like many other former volunteers, Vinnie returned to Camp Shawnee where she is this year's Camp Coordinator. "I had an absolutely amazing summer," Vinnie says, recalling her first year at camp. "The

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Love for volunteering leads back to CAP

Do something wonderful and you'll want someone else to try it, too. So it was with two former volunteers, Laura Wick and Amy Schill. They are now sharing their volunteer experience through their jobs as Volunteer Recruiters.

Laura first came to CAP in 2000 as a college student participating in WorkFest. She later returned twice more to WorkFest then for two more years to work in the Housing program in Floyd County. Laura also served at Camp Shawnee for five summers.

"I loved the people I met while I was a volunteer. I really felt at home in Kentucky," Laura says. "I love the uniqueness of the Appalachian region, and the history and character. I feel that there is so much beauty here, but there are also many urgent issues that I feel passionate about and want to help solve."

Amy volunteered from 2003 to 2005 as an Outreach caseworker in Owsley County. She says the "Kentucky bug" that many former CAP volunteers talk about is real. "I fell in love with this area and all the people I met as a volunteer. I knew I wanted to stay in the area." After volunteering, Amy went to work in the Development Department at

Berea College, but when the recruiter position became available she felt called to return to CAP.

"I want to help inspire other people to put their faith into action," Amy says. "Appalachia needs volunteers who are called to be God's hands and feet in the region, and I'm excited about sharing CAP's story and the need for volunteers with other people."

Laura's reasons for working as a recruiter are much the same. "I believe that CAP is such an amazing opportunity for people to see what it means to live a life of service, to learn about rural poverty and the wide-ranging effects it creates, and to walk in solidarity with people who need support in one way or another," she says. "My life was changed so much by being a volunteer at CAP, and my hope is that others will have an eye-opening, rewarding and life-changing experience."

Laura is living in Berea where she is a member of Union Church. She volunteers with Kentuckians for the Commonwealth and PeaceCraft, a nonprofit fair trade shop in Berea. She works part-time



Amy Schill and Laura Wick

with Appalachia Science in the Public Interest in Rockcastle County. Amy also lives in Berea and says, "Since there are so many former volunteers who stuck around

the area, there is a great community." She enjoys going to Natural Bridge and the pinnacles in Berea. Amy also volunteers at PeaceCraft and is a member of St. Clare Church.

If you can host Laura or Amy in your home when they are on a recruiting trip, please check out CAP's Web Site (www.chrisapp.org) starting in September for their travel schedules.

Welcome new alums

We welcome the following individuals who finished their volunteer service with CAP in the past few months.

- Elisha Newcomer
- Patricia Snook
- Mary Houck
- James Williamson
- Sherri Moribito
- Rachel Ross
- Lauren Luther
- Cecelia Smith
- Agnes Ryan
- Sarah Kingery
- Kimberly Churbock
- Lauri Stutz
- Marie Stutz
- John Stutz
- Kristin Stenborg
- Kristin Canon
- Margaret Wihlon
- Tom Christenson
- Sara Fackender
- Barb Faris
- Jean Klutz
- Bridget Gaffney
- James Finnegan

Send us your news from across the mountains

Your former volunteer friends want to know what you're doing these days! Please send us any news you would like to share. We'll publish your news in an upcoming edition of the CAP Connection. Send to: Kathy Kluesener, Volunteer Program, Rt. 6, Box 43, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456 or volunteer@chrisapp.org.

Name: _____

Street address: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail address: _____ Years you volunteered: _____

Your news: _____

From across the mountains

Diane (Wood) Troy and Peter Troy made a return visit to Berea in the spring, many years after volunteering. Diane spent seven vacations with CAP nearly 40 years ago. She and Peter have now raised four children, Peter is a school administrator and president of a school for autism and Diane has taught middle school. They live in Massachusetts and are planning to return to Kentucky to retire.

Michael

Hackett, '99 – '00, '01 – '02, wrote to say he still thinks about CAP. He and his wife, Tonya, have a daughter named Faith and are expecting another child. "When my kids get older I want them to come to CAP and have the best of times as I did and meet people who really care about each other."

George Pehler, '85-'86, recently stopped by to visit several former volunteers. He sends his best regards to all the volunteers who served with him at the Sunshine Center, Camp Andrew Jackson and Camp Shawnee. In fact, he wants to know if anyone remembers the salt water showers at Shawnee. George currently lives in Minnesota.

Bob Howe, '95 – '96, recently moved to Clifton Forge, Va. where he writes that he is surrounded by mountains and beautiful rock formations.

Anna (Harken) Brannen, '98 – '00, and **Joe Brannen**, '93 – '94 and '98 – '00, will be moving to

Omaha, Nebraska at the end of July with their young daughter Sophie to become house parents at Girls and Boys Town, a nonprofit organization that cares for abused, abandoned and neglected girls and boys.



Casey Sterr, Mary McNamara, Ursula and Matt Rossm, (holding their children Evelyn and Gus), John Keane and John Lennon (kneeling) gather for vacation in Cleveland.

Ali Lien, '00 – '01, married Chris Holroyd on May 13 in Cedar Mountain, North Carolina. The wedding was at Camp Greenville, the YMCA Camp where Ali works.

Lindy and Steve Meer, '03 – '04, write that their son, John Paul, turned one

in May. They bought a house in Milwaukee. Lindy writes, "Although we miss the hills of Sand Lick Rd., the flat-land sure makes jogging and biking easier."

Stephanie (Krug), '96 – '97, and Ben McLeish, evacuated from New Orleans last year when the hurricane hit. They have returned to resurrect their ministry – Desire Street Ministries – and are now hosting volunteers who are working on hurricane recovery efforts. They write that although they continue to mourn the loss of life as they knew it, there's still plenty to enjoy in the Big Easy. One of their major sources of happiness is their son Silas, who was born in April.

Condolences to **Jay Barrett** on the death of her husband, Ed. Many will remember Jay and Ed for the years they volunteered during the Christmas basket season. Please keep Jay and her family in your prayers.

Volunteer remembered

Former volunteer Kelly Herbert was on the minds of many on June 15 when employees and volunteers gathered to remember her at Rainbow Respite in Mt. Vernon. Kelly, who had been injured in September, 2002 while serving as a volunteer with Respite, died May 31st in Arizona at the age of 27.

Roxanne Mink, a Rainbow Respite co-worker of Kelly's, shared a eulogy that reminded those gathered about Kelly's dedication to leading a life of service, even after she became disabled. The group reminisced about the special place Kelly held in their hearts and they listened to some of her favorite songs. A pink dogwood tree planted on Rainbow Respite grounds honors Kelly.

Regional Partners

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who were curious about what she and Tyler had been doing with CAP. Helping people know about the opportunities at CAP is important to Kori. "People of all ages and walks of life are searching for something more, something different, a challenge to walk closer with their Savior. I truly believe people yearn to serve, to be His hands and feet in today's world. God has already placed the spark in their hearts, we are just out there to fan the flame."

So far, Kori and Tyler have attended one major event. Approximately 300 people visited their display. They have also spoken about CAP's volunteer opportunities at meetings for church leaders and with graduating seniors at various social and bible clubs.

"Being a part of CAP has been such a blessing for us and we look forward to passing that blessing on to the next group of volunteers."

Kids draw them back to camp

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kids down here are so great. I love the kids – the smiles on their faces and the things they teach you.”

Vinnie is one of 18 former volunteers who returned to Camp Shawnee or Camp A.J. this summer. Before she traveled to Kentucky, she read a book of Father Beiting’s and says when she arrived Appalachia was just as the book said. Even

when she returned home to New York last year, she watched the camp DVD of photos repeatedly and corresponded via e-mail with some of the campers. This year, she sees that those campers have grown a lot; they’re physically bigger plus they remember some of what they learned last summer. That’s rewarding and fun for any returning volunteer.

Alumni who returned to volunteer at camp again this summer

include: Camp Shawnee – Mary St. Clair, Anne St. Peter, Laura Wright, Dan Zepf, Tim Constantino and Michael Kelly; Camp A.J. – Jack Denmark, James Sullivan, Tamara Frank, John Naylor, Monica Naylor, John Renner, Henry Brady, Louis Kluesener, Kathy Webb, Hope Christensen, Myla Sparks and McKay Moore.

Mark your calendars now . . . for June 29 – July 1, 2007.

That’s when CAP will host the next volunteer alumni reunion in Mt. Vernon. Please add this to your next year’s vacation schedule!



CAP welcomes four new volunteers

In May, the Volunteer Program held an orientation for four new volunteers. They are pictured here and listed with their hometown and CAP program: (front) Margaret Hope (Stanardsville, Va., Human Service Missions), Alex Horning (Farmington, Pa., Housing), Sr. Margot Eder (East Tawas, Mich., Elderly Services); (back) Carolyn Crozier (Niceville, Fla., Elderly Services)



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Volunteer Program

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