

# **Campers on Mission Manual**



**Adopted July 18, 2012 by Chapter Presidents  
at National Rally in Rayne, Louisiana  
Includes revisions through June 2015  
National Rally in Marion, North Carolina**

## Acknowledgement

The original manual was prepared by Wintford and Martha Haynes when they were serving as the National Campers on Mission Coordinators with NAMB. The regional representatives and the National Coordinator rewrote this manual between the 2011 and 2012 national rallies to accommodate organizational changes made in 2011 by NAMB and the Campers on Mission.



The editor would like to extend his deepest appreciation to COMer Judy Smith for her detailed in-depth proofreading of several versions of the draft manual. All the campers appreciate her hard work. To Judy, we all say thanks and keep up the Good Work. – Larry Davis, Editor



Larry Davis, Editor



Phillip & Judy Smith

## Foreword

Campers on Mission (COM) is a national fellowship of evangelical Christian campers who look for opportunities to share their faith and love of Jesus Christ through their participation in mission activities while camping. Two characteristics of COMers are a love of the great outdoors and a love of sharing Jesus. These Christian campers are active members of local churches and have taken the Great Commission seriously. While enjoying the camping experience, they participate in mission projects including church planting, construction, disaster relief recovery, Backyard Bible Clubs, fairs and festivals, campgrounds, auto racing, parades, and truck stops, engaging in opportunities to tell others about Jesus. COMers share Christ *as we go* on travels across the United States, assisting churches, church planters and associations in a variety of mission projects to help reach the local communities with the gospel of Christ. COMers are “*on mission*” Christians, sharing Christ through word and deed *as we go*.

This manual was adopted by the autonomous COM chapters to allow them to function cohesively and more effectively reach the lost and focus their mission work at the point of need.

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Elinor Roberts & Ronnie Hunter  
attend devotions at North Florida Fair



Campers man COM booth at a trade show

## CHAPTER 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

### Who joins the Campers on Mission?

Membership is open to all Bible-believing Christians who are active members in good standing in an evangelical church.

There are many reasons to join the Campers on Mission; a number of them are biblically based.

- Mathew 6:19-21 states 19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth consume, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 for where thy treasure is, there will thy heart be also.
- Mathew 28:19 states Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
- Matthew 10:42, “If anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these my little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.”
- Mathew 19:19, “... love your neighbor as yourself.”
- Luke 10:25-37, Parable of the good Samaritan
- John 4:5-30, Jesus’ ministry to the woman at the well
- Acts 8:26-39, Phillip’s witness to the Ethiopian
- Acts 16:12-15, Paul’s ministry to Lydia
- Jesus commissioned believers to “go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19, NIV).

In obedience to His command, Campers on Mission urges members to carry the gospel “*as they go*.” It is easy to see where the campers got the slogan *As we go!* God instructs us to “go ye therefore .....” As long as a person’s focus is on working for Jesus, this is a great place to work independently or with others in trying to fulfill our great commission.

If you enjoy camping and want an opportunity to combine that love with mission work, the campers is the place to be. If you would like to get your children involved with mission work and want to do it as a family, this is the place! If you would like to turn your vacation time into meaningful mission experiences, this is the place! If you are retired and want to give your life meaning and direction, this is the place! If you are retired and want to give back some of what the Lord has blessed you with, this is the place! If you want to see a mighty moving of the Lord, this is the place! Or if you just want to follow God’s instructions, this is the place!

Camping provides a great way for families to have the relaxation of a vacation and the satisfaction of a mission project. Campers on Mission also provide a great way for retired people to exercise their gifts for the kingdom of God. So whether you are single, retired, newly married, or married for a long time, we invite you to join us and be “*On Mission with Jesus*” “*As You Go*”.



## What is Campers on Mission?

Campers on Mission is a national fellowship of individual evangelical Christian campers who volunteer to share their faith and the love of Jesus while camping and/or participating in mission activities. Membership is open to Christian campers of all evangelical denominations. All members and officers are self supported missionaries working without any expectation of reimbursements or income. They work on local projects, projects around the state, projects across the country, and some even go on international projects. The individuals select mission opportunities as they feel led. Some travel a little, others travel a lot. Owning an RV is optional.

## How do I join Campers on Mission?

Talk to an active Campers on Mission member to get a feel for the organization. Then prayfully ask the Lord if this is what he would have you do. Following his leading, submit an enrollment application form. A copy is in the back of this manual and copies can be downloaded from the national Campers on Mission website [www.campersonmission.net](http://www.campersonmission.net). You can also contact any active Campers on Mission member to get a copy. The application must be submitted to the chapter president of the chapter you wish to join. Go to [www.namb.net/Campers\\_on\\_Mission](http://www.namb.net/Campers_on_Mission) or [www.campersonmission.net](http://www.campersonmission.net) to get the contact information for the local chapter president. The active Campers on Mission member you were talking to can also provide the chapter president's name.

Once you join, you are a member of the specific chapter you joined, which also makes you a member of the national organization. You can participate with any chapter or all chapters within the organization. If you would like to join more than one chapter, that is okay. To stay on a chapter roll, you must actively participate with that Campers on Mission chapter. The definition of "actively participate" is determined by the individual chapter by-laws and practices.

## What does the Campers on Mission emblem mean?

The Campers on Mission emblem was designed to provide opportunities to witness about faith in Jesus Christ. The design, a fish encircled by a compass, promotes conversation. The fish, an early Christian symbol, denotes personal acceptance of Jesus as Savior. The compass star symbolizes the expanse of God's creation and reminds members that, wherever they roam, God is present as they seek Him. The circle surrounding the design represents God's eternal existence and bountiful love for all people. Another benefit of the distinctive emblem is that members displaying it are easily identified by one another so they can join together in Christian fellowship *as they go*.



# The Campers on Mission song

**Campers on Mission For Jesus**

A.G. Alice Greenwood

As we With the We will  
Tra vel the high ways and Tal ents God gave us we'll be a bold wit ness for  
by ways \_\_\_\_\_; thru the serve Him \_\_\_\_\_; we will Je - sus \_\_\_\_\_; ev - every  
fields white with har-vest we'll la - bor be - fore It is day we'll pro claim His great  
go \_\_\_\_\_; in the night \_\_\_\_\_; and what love \_\_\_\_\_; we will

strength of the Lord we will  
ev - er our hands find to tell of His mer - cy and  
share \_\_\_\_\_ His word, and let do \_\_\_\_\_ for God, we will grace \_\_\_\_\_ so free, and the  
glo - ry to God o - ver do it with all of our home He's pre-par - ing a  
flow \_\_\_\_\_; might \_\_\_\_\_;

We are cam - pers on mis - sions for Je - sus \_\_\_\_\_; We are laborers with God here be low \_\_\_\_\_;

and wher - ev - er He leads we will fol - low, shar - ing Christ sharing Christ as we go

© Alice Greenwood 1986



## **How do I get involved with the Campers on Mission?**

Decide the type of mission opportunities you would like to be involved in, and/or the geographical area you would like to work. Pray about your decision and make sure it is God's direction, then look for mission needs in the work or geographical area. You have a number of options available. A number are listed below:

1. Contact the chapter presidents and chapter project coordinators in the geographical area and request information on projects in their chapter area.
2. Contact the regional representative in the region and ask about projects in the region.
3. Talk to each of the active Campers that you know.
4. Search locations such as:
  - a. The chapter's website (Search online by the chapter's name)
  - b. The national Campers on Mission website at [www.campersonmission.net](http://www.campersonmission.net)
  - c. The COM chapter newsletters
  - d. The COM national newsletter
5. Once you identify a likely opportunity of interest, contact the project coordinator or ministry contact person directly. Share your interest and learn about the mission needs. Make sure you understand their needs and expectations.
6. When you select a mission opportunity to pursue, contact the project coordinator or ministry contact person and tell them when you will be arriving and when you will be leaving. Ask them what you need to bring. Work out any unanswered details.
7. If you have any changes in your plans, you need to let the project coordinator or ministry contact person know immediately.

## **How can I get other COMers to help on a project?**

The other side of project involvement is identifying projects for others to work on. When you become aware of a ministry/mission need that seems to fit the Campers on Mission ministry, talk to the ministry contact person. Remind them it is a very preliminary contact, and if they are interested, get information on the ministry/mission needs, the contact person's contact information, and their ability to provide RV sites or sleeping space for the volunteers. Share this information with chapter presidents, Campers on Mission project coordinators, regional representatives and the national coordinator. You will have completed your responsibility. The others will then go forward with the need you identified. *Please remember that a significant percentage of the ministries/mission opportunities that request help don't go forward to a completed work.* Frequently it is a function of time, money, bureaucrats, personnel, statutes, changing neighborhoods, poor planning, etc. It is our job to share the need; it is the Holy Spirit's job to supply the volunteers.

## **What types of ministries does the Campers on Mission support?**

### **Church planting by**

1. Mentoring the church planter.
2. Be a prayer partner for the church planter.
3. Be an accountability partner for the church planter.
4. Minister to the wife of the church planter (mentor/prayer/accountability partner)
5. Serve as a grandparent to the church planter's children.

6. Help with budget planning.
7. Do bookkeeping (help set up books and files)
8. Fill in as office staff (set up the office/files/create mailing lists/forms and etc.
9. Assist with forms and documents which need to be completed.
10. Set up a website and keep it current.
11. Create calendars of events.
12. Provide marketing ideas and help with marketing.
13. Provide media ministry support for services and other activities.
14. Support the music ministry with instruments or by song.
15. Staff the children's church.
16. Help hold Vacation Bible Schools and Back Yard Bible Clubs.
17. Help hold outreach events like block parties, parades, social and community events.
18. Help with door-to-door outreach.
19. Organize and/or participate in prayer walking.
20. Provide support to college ministries.
21. Set-up and tear-down equipment.
22. Carry out construction projects.
23. Help with landscaping and maintenance work.
24. Be ready to do any other task needing doing.

**Campground ministering** - by hosting campgrounds, holding worship services, entertainment, music, physical needs, spiritual needs, witnessing, scripture distribution, recreational support, and any other task needing doing.

**Evangelism** - by holding revivals, bible studies, vacation bible schools, backyard bible clubs, preaching, chaplaincy work and any other task needing doing.

**Youth Camps** - by cooking meals, counseling, teaching, entertaining, witnessing, maintaining camps, building facilities, hauling kids, maintaining discipline, and any other task needing doing.

**Disaster Relief** - by cooking meals, washing clothes, running shower trailers, communications, electrical work, cleanup work, whatever is needed work and any other task needing doing.

**Construction** - by building, renovating, repairing, maintaining, or adding on to existing structures or building new structures and facilities.

**Fairs** - by providing for the spiritual and physical needs of carnies and attendees. This includes working at the gates and buildings, entertainment, puppetry, magic, music, games, scripture distribution, witnessing, counseling, cooking, Bible games, clowning, distributing clothing and necessary items, and any other task needing doing.

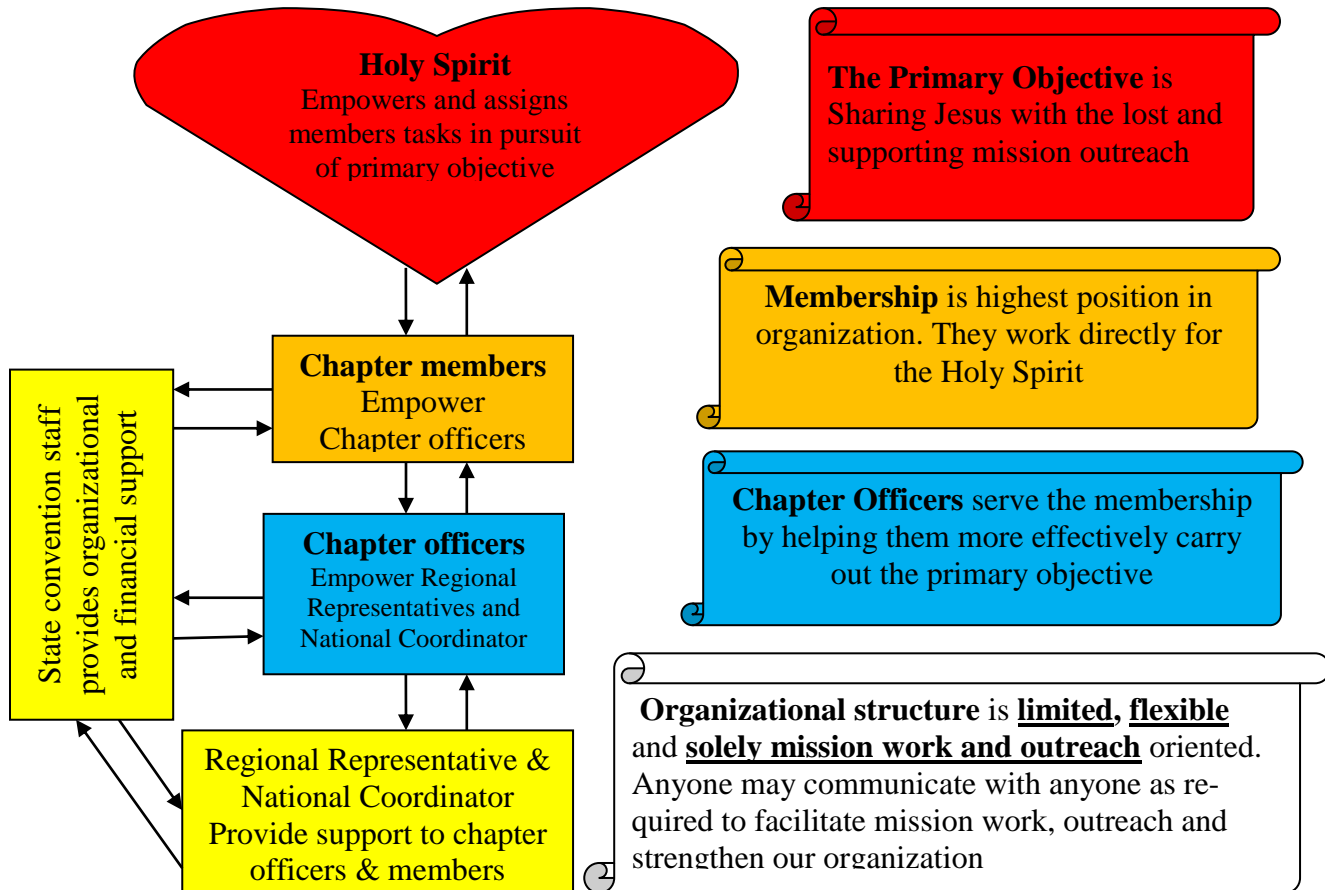
**Special ministries** - such as resorts/tourist areas, raceways, hospitals, convalescence homes, elderly, shut-ins, widows, hospice, jails/prisons, flea markets, parades, festivals, Seamen's ministry, truck stops and anyplace there is a spiritual or physical need that God leads his campers to fill. The COM even has revival teams available.

## CHAPTER 2 - ORGANIZATION

### Primary Organizational Objective

Our organizational structure is limited, flexible and solely mission and outreach oriented. We help members reach the lost for Jesus by helping them get involved in witnessing, evangelism, church planting and mission work. All of our activities focus on reaching the lost and helping others reach the lost.

### Typical Campers on Mission Chapter Organizational Chart:



### Regional Representatives & National Coordinator support Chapter officers and members by

1. Initiating and facilitating good working relationships with/between the individual COM'ers, COM chapter leaders, state Baptist convention staff, National Coordinator, and regional representatives;
2. Providing support and counsel to COM chapter leaders, with the goal, to strengthen and enhance chapter organization and operations. This requires understanding each chapter's strengths and weaknesses;
3. Facilitating communication between regions and regional chapters to share organizational ideas, mission opportunities, prayer requests, and information from Regional representatives meetings;
4. Assisting regional chapters in training COM volunteers in evangelism, project logistics and how to engage in mission projects;
5. Promoting the COM organization to potential members and potential mission opportunities.

## Regional Representatives

### *Campers on Mission Regional Representatives*



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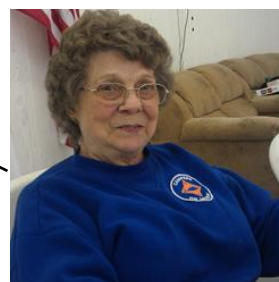


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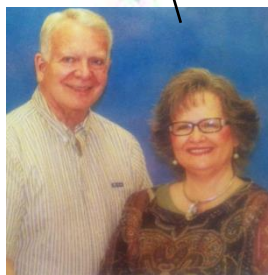


Region 5

VACANT



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## National Coordinators:



In 1987, Carl and I (Mary Reagan) were commissioned as Mission Service Corp assigned to National Campers on Mission Specialists by the HMB. We retired the end of September, 1998. Being a part of the national COM family gave us great joy. They are the most precious people in the world. They believe that the Bible said **“to go into all the world because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of god.”**

Our main function was to **educate and motivate** people into finding their place of service through COM. It included organizing state chapters from 10 in 1987 to 22 in 1998. Organizing national mission projects such as: 29 families to Alaska to install furnace, bathrooms, Christmas Parade in July, Bible studies; West Virginia, install inside bathroom in home with only

one outside, library in church, Bible studies; Las Vegas, work with abused children, Bible study in casino; the Dakotas, seniors helping seniors week, replaced state maps with wall paneling, work with churches and Indians. We helped plan national rallies, promoted and mailed scripture distributions, maintained the national roster, and prepared and mailed monthly national newsletters. -- Mary Reagan [Macare@frontier.com](mailto:Macare@frontier.com).

We came on board as National Campers on Mission Coordinators at The North American Mission Board (NAMB) as MSC Missionaries in August of 1998 and left after the Illinois National Rally in 2010.

We were involved in starting seven new chapters and reviving two more. We composed the first Campers on Mission manual and created two new COM brochures. We started an Emergency Task Force with one hundred and two members to respond with-in-a three days notice. The teams responded after the floods in WV (mud out and rebuilt), Hurricane Floyd in NC (rebuild), Hurricane Charlie in FL (man warehouse), and Hurricane Katrina in LA (staffing Camp Living Waters for 3 months). We ministered in forty-one of our fifty states, plus in the Bahamas, Mexico, Canada, and Germany. We were involved in Mission Celebration Conferences in several states. We did our best to maintain the National COM data base at NAMB and sending new members packets to new members.



It was a great time serving with our Lord and His Family! -- Wintford & Martha Haynes



Larry and Becky Davis pictured here with COM charter member Lillie Joe Caraway, informally filled in as the national coordinator from June 2010 until the 2011 national rally where they were unanimously elected national coordinator. They served in that position until June 2015.

The task they feel God gave them was to help the organization make an organizational transition following a business decision by NAMB. The COM transitioned to Jesus' business model very smoothly. The membership works directly for the Holy Spirit. All chapter officers, regional representatives and the national coordinator are Servant Christians whose roles are to provide the support and help needed for the membership to more efficiently reach the

lost and work on the mission field. The officer's roles are to educate and motivate like Carl and Mary Reagan and encourage, empower and delegate each member to realize their full potential as a missionary for Jesus Christ.

The Camper's effectiveness is directly proportional to the level of communications shared throughout the organization. Each member is responsible for sharing all mission needs as broadly as possible within the organization. This is done by sending the information to the national coordinator for inclusion in the weekly prayer request and mission needs or the quarterly national newsletter.

As evidence by the annual Praise reports, the level of God's accomplishments using the campers has increased each year. May God and the Campers keep it up until the Rapture. Keep up the Good Work. --Larry and Becky Davis



## Organizational Flow

Below is a brief overview of how our organization functions, considering that each individual chapter is completely autonomous. Each chapter's members have the authority to modify their chapter's organizational structure and bylaws as required to make it function better, based on the number and talents of the membership. **This manual does not override or supersede chapter bylaws.** It covers the organizational structure of the collective chapters.

### The Members

The members of each autonomous chapter select and empower their chapter officers. This makes chapter membership the highest level position held in our organization. (There is no level of organization between the individual members and God.) It also makes the membership responsible for the quality of chapter officers. The chapter officers carry out the will of the membership. It is the members' responsibility to keep the chapter officers current with the needs of the membership.

The membership, chapter officers, and state convention staff, collectively, are the heartbeat of our organization. They set the direction of each chapter in accordance with the chapter bylaws. There should always be an open line of communication between the membership and the chapter officers, chapter officers and the state convention staff, and also between the membership and state convention staff. This open line of communication also extends between chapters and regions.

### Chapter Presidents

The chapter presidents select and empower the regional representatives, who become support staff for the chapter presidents. The chapter presidents collectively have the responsibility to provide regional representatives oversight and direction. They collectively provide oversight and direction to our national organization. All major organizational decisions that impact numerous chapters will be made by the chapter presidents collectively. They adopted this manual and will adopt subsequent policies to help keep our focus on the main objective of reaching the lost and helping others to reach the lost. While, they may delegate specific decisions or responsibilities to an individual or a committee, they retain the oversight and direction responsibilities. For more details on their responsibilities, see the Campers on Mission bylaws in the back of this manual.

### Lead President

The lead president will be the chapter president that hosted the previous national rally. He will schedule and hold the presidents' meetings, at least annually, so they can address the necessary organizational decisions. The lead president, with the help of national coordinator, will prepare and distribute the meeting agenda one month prior to the meeting. He will also make sure the national coordinator prepares and distributes meeting minutes to the attendees within one month after the meeting. A notebook of the past meeting minutes is to be kept and retained by the current lead president. If a lead president feels uncomfortable with these roles, he can delegate them as desired to the national coordinator. For specific actions to be included on each president's meeting agenda see Chapter 8 Bylaws, Article IX – Officers Job Description, Lead President.

It should be noted that vice-presidents, regional representatives, national coordinator, state convention staff, NAMB staff, and others as invited, may attend the presidents' working meetings;

however, only sitting chapter presidents or the specifically delegated representatives of absent presidents have the authority to vote.

### **State Convention Staff**

Most chapters function in cooperation with their state convention. Each of these state conventions has a person assigned the responsibility of liaison to the Campers on Mission chapter. In some chapters, the liaison is an active member of the Campers on Mission chapter. The closer the relationship, the better. It is recommended that each state convention liaison be invited to participate in as many Campers on Mission functions as possible. At the national rallies, they are invited to attend, the presidents' luncheon, the presidents' working meeting, the regional attendees' meetings, and regional representatives' meetings.

Each member and state officer should strive to make the state convention liaison feel like part of the chapter. Frequent communications, sharing the chapter vision, invitations to chapter functions, and offering to help when the liaison needs volunteers will help improve this relationship.

### **Regional Representatives**

Regional representatives should be effective facilitators and communicators. They should effectively communicate sufficient pertinent information to enough campers that the chapter officers and members can make the appropriate informed decisions. The regional representative's primary functions are to serve as a regional facilitator, to initiate and encourage communication between state convention personnel, Campers on Mission chapter presidents, and individual Campers on Mission members, work with the national coordinator, state Baptist convention staff, and Campers on Mission chapter leadership. For more details on their responsibilities, see Chapter 8 Bylaws, Article IX – Officers Job Description, Regional Representatives.

### **National Coordinator**

The national coordinator's primary functions are to serve as a national facilitator who initiates and supports communication between Campers on Mission regional and chapter representatives and supports/coordinates the efforts of the regional representatives. In addition the Campers on Mission national coordinator serves as the liaison for the regional representatives and NAMB staff. Please note this position is one of communication and facilitating. It is a support role needing a strong, servant-Christian with good communications and people skills. For more details on his responsibilities, see the Campers on Mission Bylaws in the back of this manual.

The bulk of the national coordinator's responsibility is in working with the regional representatives and helping with the national rallies. The regional representatives will do most of the heavy support work. The national coordinator will be their coach and encourager, helping them to understand and carry out their responsibilities, while ensuring effective communications are consistent organization wide.

### **North American Mission Board**

The Campers on Mission and North American Mission Board have a cooperative relationship. NAMB has numerous mission opportunities that need volunteers. The Campers on Mission is a tremendous pool of active volunteers seeking mission opportunities.



## **CHAPTER 3 - COMMUNICATIONS**

Communication is the lifeblood of an organization like the Campers on Mission. The following methods of communication have been implemented to keep the membership informed of mission opportunities, prayer requests, organizational actions and mission successes. Please get involved and submit information you feel should be shared with the membership to the appropriate newsletter editor or webmaster.

### **Chapter Newsletters**

Each chapter is encouraged to publish a chapter newsletter two or more times a year. It can be sent electronically to most of the membership, and at a nominal cost, by U.S. mail to the others. Each chapter should send electronic copies of each of their newsletters to all regional representatives, their state convention liaison, the national coordinator, the national newsletter editor and the national website webmaster. Chapters may choose to incorporate their chapter news into the national newsletter.

### **National Newsletters**

A quarterly national electronic newsletter was implemented at the June 2011 national rally, and the first edition was distributed to the chapter presidents in July 2011. The presidents are responsible for distributing it to their membership.

Each of the future newsletters will be based on information submitted by the chapters and the regional representatives. Each chapter should select one or more campers to submit information for the future editions. Additional individuals may feel led to submit information. Each of the regional representatives should include a brief article in each edition. At a minimum, each edition should include future rally information, mission opportunities, prayer requests, praise reports, and interesting information on new members or long time campers. Any articles that will share opportunities, successes, better ways of doing business, or that are just plain interesting will be considered based on space available. This is the members' newsletter and should reflect their areas of interest. To make it happen, the editor needs their input. The production schedule is mid January, April, July, and October. To meet this schedule, your input is needed by mid March, June, September, and December. Please set these dates on your calendar. Your input can be emailed to [nationalcoordinator@campersonmission.net](mailto:nationalcoordinator@campersonmission.net)

### **Chapter Websites**

Each chapter is encouraged to have its own website where they keep chapter information that is current and meaningful to the members and potential members. Many chapters already have websites. A link to each of the chapter's websites is included on the national website. For the websites to be credible, all data must be current. Whenever a member sees obsolete data on one of the websites, he should immediately notify the appropriate webmaster and chapter president. In lieu of a chapter website, chapters may include their data on the national website.

### **National Campers on Mission Website**

The national Campers on Mission website is located at [www.campersonmission.net](http://www.campersonmission.net) .

## **CHAPTER 4 - PRAISE REPORTS TO GLORIFY GOD'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **How to Praise the Lord through individual "Praise" Reports**

When a dozen campers with an average age in the mid-seventies move onto an empty site and leave a new church building three months later, it is God, not man. When campers work at a fair for two weeks and experience a hundred new salvations, it is God, not man. In church services, individuals give praise reports by sharing what God has done in their lives. As campers, we do the same thing. We give God the praise for the things he accomplishes through us, just as he desires. When others hear what He has done through us, it strengthens them and brings others into the kingdom of God. Can we do any less?

We share praise reports in our newsletters, on our websites, and with our local chapter. The more we share God's accomplishments, the more others will be strengthened. As they are strengthened, they will be encouraged to get more involved in doing God's work. Hearing praise reports may plant seeds so that others may plant some seeds and others may accept the Lord or even join Campers on Mission. If we do our best, God will use it for his benefit.

Each chapter should have its own praise report forms designed to meet their specific needs and desires for reporting God's accomplishments. Chapters may have the individuals report their praises or they may have the project coordinators/leaders report the praises for each camper on the project. Some chapters accept the reports via email; others want them mailed in with a hard copy. The format doesn't matter if the item definitions are consistent with those used by other chapters. To provide some uniformity, a generic form of requested information is included. It is followed by a brief clarification of each item requested. These clarifications are to be used to complete your Praise Report regardless of the format your chapter uses to collect the data.



Pete Butler shares with camper Mrs. Debbie Pinson, central NC regional director for the NC Baptist Aging Ministry



Campers discussing the Baptist Aging Ministry

**CAMPERS ON MISSION PRAISE REPORT FOR \_\_\_\_\_ (Year)**

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Project A Source:</b>		
<b>Type:</b>	<b>Comments:</b>	
<b>Dates worked:</b>	<b>Place Worked:</b>	<b>Address:</b>

<b>Project B Source:</b>		
<b>Type:</b>	<b>Comments:</b>	
<b>Dates worked:</b>	<b>Place Worked:</b>	<b>Address:</b>

<b>Project C Source:</b>		
<b>Type:</b>	<b>Comments:</b>	
<b>Dates worked:</b>	<b>Place Worked:</b>	<b>Address:</b>

<b>Project D Source:</b>		
<b>Type:</b>	<b>Comments:</b>	
<b>Dates worked:</b>	<b>Place Worked:</b>	<b>Address:</b>

PROJECTS					
Number of	A	B	C	D	Totals
Miles traveled					
Ministry Hours					
Testimonies					
Professions of Faith					
Rededications					
Tracts distributed					
Bibles distributed					
Worship services					
Revivals/Surveys					
Houses Surveyed					
Prospects					

**Send report to your appropriate chapter officer**



## Instructions for filling out Praise Report

1. **Year** is the calendar year God accomplished this work through you. If it is a multi-year project, report the work done each year in that year.
2. **Name, telephone, address, city, state, zip:** Enter your personal information.
3. **Project Source** is the person or the place from which you learned of the project. Did you read about it on your chapter newsletter, national newsletter, chapter website, COM national website, NAMB's website, or did someone like another camper, your chapter president or project coordinator tell you about it? If a campground, church, promoter or other organizational leader contacted you, enter their name and organization.
4. **Type (of ministry):** Campground, Church Planting, Construction, Disaster Relief, Fairs/Festivals, Kitchen, Raceway, Resort, Revivals, Surveys, Seaman's, VBS, Bible Studies, or other which you can describe in **Comments**.
5. **Comments:** This space is provided to share information on the type of ministry work.
6. **Dates worked:** Enter the dates of first and last work days. If it is a multi-year project, report the work done each year in that year.
7. **Place worked:** Enter name of place or event you worked.
8. **Address:** Enter name of city and state the place/function was located.

At the bottom of form is space to include the specific accomplishments for each project as designated by the "A", "B", "C", and "D". For each individual project fill in the following information:

9. **Miles traveled:** Enter total number of ministry miles traveled. This includes travel getting supplies together prior to leaving home, travel to the ministry site, ministry related travel while working on the ministry and travel home. Leisure time travel while on site should not be included.
10. **Ministry hours:** Do not include travel time. Do include all time preparing for the ministry, training for the specific ministry and the actual ministry. For example; if you were putting on a VBS somewhere other than your home church, you could include time learning the subject material, gathering materials, setting up the facility, holding VBS, and cleaning up afterwards. Your regular church activities such as teaching Sunday school class or VBS do not count as mission/ministry hours, unless you reach outside your local church.
11. **Testimonies:** Enter the number of times you personally shared your testimony. Everywhere campers go in their COM shirts and caps, people ask about what it means. Then the camper shares his witness and testimony. They may even ask the questioner if they know Jesus. On each project campers are asked to formally share their testimony before the group. Each of these incidents should be reported.
12. **Professions of faith:** Enter the number of times you personally lead someone to Christ while working on a mission effort. Do not include professions of faith lead by someone else in your group. Include all professions of faith that occur from when you leave home traveling to the ministry until you return home from the ministry.
13. **Rededications:** Enter the number of times you personally lead someone through rededicating their lives to the Lord. Do not include rededications lead by someone else in your group. Include all rededications that occur from when you leave home traveling to the ministry until you return home from the ministry.

- 14. Tracts distributed:** Enter the number of tracts you personally distributed.
- 15. Bibles Distributed:** Enter the number of Bibles you personally distributed.
- 16. Worship services held:** Enter the number of worship services you personally conducted.  
Worship services include speaking the message, song and praise worship, devotional messages, hymn sing-a-longs around the campfire, construction project devotional services, devotional services at the fair, Bible studies, etc. Other than revivals listed in the next item, each time you lead a group in a worship session which focused on worshipping or praising God or studying his word should be counted as holding a worship service. This also includes Bible studies for COMers.
- 17. Revivals/surveys:** Enter the number of revivals/surveys in which you participated. You don't have to be the lead person. Count each one you performed a role in helping the revival/survey to be completed.
- 18. Houses surveyed:** Enter number of houses you personally surveyed.
- 19. Prospects:** Enter number of prospects you personally met and identified for follow-up by others. A prospect is a lost person who seems receptive to the Word. You planted the seed and you shared the information so others can water and harvest.

It is easier on the person recording your data and on you if you report God's accomplishments at the end of each project. The information will still be fresh in your memory and the project recorder will not be getting a large volume of praise reports at the end of the year. You should have all your praises reported by December 31<sup>st</sup> each year, unless your chapter has established a different deadline.



Knitted caps made by campers for  
Pregnancy Crisis Center



Leigh Nichols working on  
Midway Baptist Church



## Annual Chapter Praise Reports

Each year the chapter will have one person responsible for summarizing the individual chapter praise reports into one Annual Chapter Praise Report, which is shown on the next page of this manual. It is awesome to see just how much God has accomplished with a few mature Christians. The Annual Chapter Praise Report should be shared with the chapter members as decided by the chapter officers. It can be distributed or shared at a chapter rally.

Each chapter shall establish the date its members are to submit their individual praise reports. The Annual Chapter Praise Reports should be prepared and submitted to the national coordinator by May 1<sup>st</sup> each year. This allows the chapters to collect praise reports throughout their spring rally.



Dave Bowen giving a presentation on RV refrigeration.



Keith Mathews (ILCOM), Julian Hall (FLCOM) & Stuart Hulsebus (MOCOM) being supervised by 2 church members at Midway Baptist Church.



Nancy Hall & Joan Thompkins make baby blankets for the Pregnancy Crisis Center.



Campers from NC, FL, VT, MO and IL.

20__ ANNUAL CAMPERS ON MISSION CHAPTER PRAISE REPORT			
Chapter Name: _____			
TOTAL MEMBERS IN CHAPTER (Note 1)			
MEMBERS INVOLVED IN PROJECTS (Note 2)			
% OF MEMBERSHIP INVOLVED (Note 3)			
HOURS DONATED (Note 4)			
PROFESSION OF FAITH (Note 5)			
REDEDICATIONS (Note 6)			
OTHER DECISIONS (Note 7)			
BIBLES/SCRIPTURAL TRACTS DISTRIBUTED			
PERSONAL TESTIMONIES SHARED/DEVOTIONS HELD			
TOTAL NUMBER OF PROJECTS/EVENTS (Note 8)			
TYPES OF PROJECTS/EVENTS	BIBLE STUDIES/VBS HELD (Note 11)		
	CHURCHES BUILT/ REPAIRED/MAINTAINED		
	CHURCH PLANTS SUPPORTED		
	CHRISTIAN CAMPS BUILT/REPAIRED/MAINTAINED		
	CHILDREN'S HOMES MINISTRIES		
	CAMPGROUND MINISTRIES		
	COLLEGE MINISTRIES		
	CONFERENCE CENTER MINISTRIES		
	JAIL MINISTRIES		
	FAIRS, FESTIVALS, OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS		
	CONVENTION OR TRADE SHOW BOOTH		
	REVIVALS, SURVEYS		
	DISASTER RELIEF, RECOVERY WORK		
	SEAMEN'S MINISTRY		
	RACEWAY MINISTRY		
	SEWING MINISTRY		
	FOOD MINISTRY		
	OTHER TYPES OF PROJECTS/EVENTS (Note 9)		



### Notes for completing Annual Chapter Praise Report:

1. Nationwide each camper should only be counted once. To prevent duplication of counting, the chapter should contact each member that lives outside the chapter's geographical area to determine if they are being counted by another chapter.
2. This number should not exceed total number of members in chapter. If a member works on multiple projects during the year, they still should only be counted once. This number should represent the number of members in your chapter that actively work on mission projects.
3. % of members involved equals members involved divided by total members in chapter. Not to exceed 100%.
4. Include hours preparing for mission trip and time worked at site, but do not include travel time.
5. Count only those decisions made in the presence of COM'er that reported the decision being made.
6. Count only those rededications made in the presence of COM'er that reported the rededication being made.
7. Count only those other decisions made in the presence of COM'er that reported the other decisions being made.
8. Total number of projects/events should equal total number of projects/events listed and numbered below the TOTAL NUMBER OF PROJECTS/EVENTS line.
9. For types of projects/events not already listed, add them on a OTHER TYPES OF PROJECTS/EVENTS line and the number of that type of projects/events in the right hand column.
10. Campers on Mission may work with other organized mission efforts such as Disaster Relief, Baptist builders, Wycliffe, Billy Graham, etc. that keep their own records of work effort. But since the COM Praise Report is an independent Praise report that is only used by the COM, there can be no duplication of reporting. All work done by campers as campers should be included in the COM Chapter Praise report.
11. **Bible studies** are a multiple meeting events which include a number of consecutive presentations of the gospel. **Devotions Held** are single individual events such as devotional held each day on projects, at campgrounds, fairs or any other event that allows the COM'ers to present the Gospel as a devotion.

**Chapter Praise Reports should be sent to national coordinator by May 1st each year.**

## Annual National Praise Report

Each year the national coordinator will take each chapter's Annual Chapter Praise Report and summarize them into a Annual National Praise Report. The task is to be completed prior to the national rally each year. To complete this task on time, each chapter must submit its praise reports in a timely manner. When you add all the accomplishments together in one document, you can see that God has really been working. The Annual National Report will be prepared in the format shown on next page.

Won't it be great to be able to praise God for all the work he has accomplished through the campers?



With puppets and clowns you always have an opportunity to reach out to the children.

Bill Foster playing on the monkey bars



**CAMPERS ON MISSION ANNUAL NATIONAL PRAISE REPORT FOR 20\_\_**

<b>CHAPTER NAME</b>	<b>TOTAL MEMBERS</b>	<b>MEMBERS INVOLVED IN PROJECTS</b>	<b>% OF MEMBERSHIP INVOLVED</b>	<b>NUMBER OF PROJECTS</b>	<b>HOURS DONATED</b>	<b>PROFESSION OF FAITH</b>	<b>REDEDICATIONS</b>	<b>CHURCHES PLANTED</b>	<b>BIBLES/SCRIPTURAL TRACTS DISTRIBUTED</b>	<b>PERSONAL TESTIMONIES SHARED</b>	<b>WORSHIP SERVICES HELD</b>	<b>BIBLE STUDIES/VBS HELD</b>	<b>CHURCHES BUILT, REPAIRED OR MAINTAINED</b>
ALABAMA													
ARIZONA													
ARKANSAS													
CALIFORNIA													
COLORADO													
FLORIDA													
GEORGIA													
ILLINOIS													
INDIANA													
IOWA													
KANSAS/ NEBRASKA													
KENTUCKY													
LOUISIANA													
MICHIGAN													
MISSISSIPPI													
MISSOURI													
NEVADA													
NEW ENGLAND													
NEW MEXICO													
NORTH CAROLINA													
NORTHWEST													
OHIO													
OKLAHOMA													
PENNSYLVANIA/ NEW JERSEY													
SOUTH CAROLINA													
TENNESSEE													
TEXAS													
VIRGINIA													
WEST VIRGINIA													
OTHERS													
<b>TOTALS</b>													

## Awards Programs

The awards program was suspended at the 2011 Presidents' meeting. It was reinstated at the June 20, 2013 President's meeting. The adopted awards program is shown on the next page.



Larry presents Lifetime Achievement Award to Don and Nita Ridgway in 2010.



Shirley Renard receives a Years of Service award for Roy and Shirley Renard from Becky in 2010..



In 2011, Marc Johnston presented Ken and Fran DeCordova the Lifetime Achievement award.



In 2012, Ken Conaway presented Fran and John Baughman the Lifetime Achievement Award

# AWARD RECIPIENTS:

Year	Award	Name
2009	Lifetime Achievement	Wintford & Martha Haynes
2010	Lifetime Achievement	Don & Nita Ridgway
2010	Years of Service	Roy & Shirley Renard
2011	Lifetime Achievement	Ken & Fran DeCordova
2011	Camper of the Year	Bill & Betty Wilson
2012	Lifetime Achievement	John & Fran Baughman
2013	Lifetime Achievement	Barbara Rotunda
	Lifetime Achievement	Russell & Dot Willis
	Lifetime Achievement	Jim & Beth Conley
	Lifetime Achievement	Yvonne & J. R. McGee
	Lifetime Achievement	Jack & Sue Sudduth
	Lifetime Achievement	Henry & Shirley Richmond
	Camper of the Year	Jim & Jane Raker
	Camper of the Year	Ed & Becky Parks
	Camper of the Year	Gene & Billie Haynes
2014	Lifetime Achievement	Vernell & James Lanier
	Lifetime Achievement	Joe & Charlene Carter
	Lifetime Achievement	Pat, Iona & Roger Carlisle
	Lifetime Achievement	Jim & Kaye Clay
	Lifetime Achievement	Jim & Mona Green
	Lifetime Achievement	Jim & Rachel Tinsley
	Lifetime Achievement	Howard & Nellie Newberry
	Camper of the Year	Rev. Flinn & Ikey Gregory
	Camper of the Year	Raymond & Doris Burton
	Camper of the Year	D. C. & Shirley H. Thompson
2015	Lifetime Achievement	Dorothy Jackson
	Lifetime Achievement	Mr. and Mrs. William "Bill" Streeter
	Lifetime Achievement	Mr. and Mrs. Norman "Norm" Marcum
	Lifetime Achievement	Wayne and Carolyn Adkins
	Lifetime Achievement	Kenneth and Barbara Dykes
	Lifetime Achievement	L.D. and Carroll Flowe
	Lifetime Achievement	Rev. Melvin and Joyce Thompson
	Lifetime Achievement	Wilton and Kathy Whigham
	Lifetime Achievement	Pete and Peggy Butler
	Lifetime Achievement	Bill and Carol Shutt
	Lifetime Achievement	Marvin and Mary Nixon
	Lifetime Achievement	Bobby and Donna Huff
	Lifetime Achievement	Norman Nolle
	Lifetime Achievement	George and Marla Anthony
	Lifetime Achievement	Jimmy and Nancy Carroll
	Lifetime Achievement	Theron and Maxine Carter

<b>2015 cont</b>	Lifetime Achievement	Josh and Jean Cartee
	Lifetime Achievement	Nat and Mary Misedine
	Lifetime Achievement	Clint and Carol Smith
	Lifetime Achievement	Don and Rose Anna Kincaid
	Lifetime Achievement	David and Sondra Moore
	Lifetime Achievement	Carl and Faytha McAnally
	Camper of the Year	John and Joyce Flowers
	Camper of the Year	John and Jeanne Beall
	Camper of the Year	Meril and Glenda Roberts
	Camper of the Year	Jim and Nancy Thrailkill

## Awards Programs

At the 2012 President's meeting a national awards program was initiated to present awards for "**Lifetime Achievements**" and "**Camper of the Year**" to worthy Campers on Mission.

**Award Nominations:** Nominations for the awards will be received by the national coordinator until January 30th each year. They may be submitted by chapter presidents, a committee within a chapter or a group of 10 or more individual COM'ers. Each chapter is encouraged to submit nominations.

**Lifetime Achievement Award** is limited to individuals/couples that have maintained a high level of effective COM participation over an extended period of time, at least 8 years or more. The recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award is ineligible for the Camper of the Year award in the same year.

The **Camper of the Year Award** is limited to individuals/couples that completed exceptional tasks or participated at an exceptional level of effective participation over one of the last several years.

The recipient of the Camper of the year award is ineligible for the Lifetime Achievement Award in the same year.

**Effective participation:** Granted our objective is professions of faith, but solely focusing on the reapers excludes the efforts of those that planted and watered prior to the reaping. Hours alone without accomplishments do not equate to effective participation. Because of the diversity of camper activities there must be equitable consideration of all activities. The definition of effective participation will include a number of factors such as:

- A. Hours of participation
- B. Number of professions of faith
- C. Impact of mission effort on those being helped and other campers.
- D. Magnitude of the camper's sacrifice compared to the campers ability to sacrifice.
- E. Consistency of sacrificial mission work – is it a onetime thing or do they do it repeatedly?
- F. Variety, innovation and diversity of mission activities while working on primary mission effort, or do they work on additional mission efforts during their spare time on the mission field?
- G. Promoting COM growth and organization

**Recipient Selection Committee:** The award recipients will be selected by a committee of the regional representatives and the national coordinator.

**Award Presentations:** When possible, the awards will be presented at a national rally. When an award is not presented at the national rally, the national coordinator will make arrangements to have it properly presented.

**Funding the Awards:** All chapters and campers will be allowed to participate in funding these awards through voluntary donations. The national coordinator will maintain the funds and report on their status at each national rally.



## CHAPTER 5 - HISTORY

The original idea for the COM started in the early 60's. Some of the charter members were working at Caraway Campground near Asheboro, NC. They worked with Bill Jackson, the first director of Caraway. Russell Willis, an active COM'er, camped at Caraway during the 60's and remembers the campground as being one big field. By 1965 campsites were set up under the trees, with randomly placed electric and water connections. The bath house was convenient to all sites and a dumping place was available for self-contained units. Organized Family Camping Weekends at Caraway campground had been started by 1970. There were two weekends each in the spring and fall. These were sponsored by the Church Extension Department, directed by Ernest Upchurch, and the Brotherhood Department, with Ed Bullock.

In 1971 the Sunday School & Home Mission Boards, led by Joel Land, did a study on RV'ing. He wrote articles for the Baptist newspapers of several states including the *Alabama Baptist* newspaper. The articles invited people with campers to an organizational meeting of the National Campers on Mission on May 19-21, 1972 in Kentucky. The stated objective of the national organizational meeting was "to bear witness to the saving power of Jesus Christ, to communicate through word and deed to the good life in Christ, and to be genuine and sensitive in our relations with other people." The initial ministries were resort/campground ministries, lending a helping hand in setting up camp, doing day camps, backyard Bible Clubs, VBS, and etc.

One hundred and one families from across the country attended the Kentucky meeting at Rushing Creek Campground, Land between the Lakes. The camping fee, including electricity, was an astronomical \$2.25 per day! Campers on Mission were organized through the cooperation of the Home Mission Board (HMB) and the Church Recreation Department of the Sunday School Board, Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). Until July 1997, Campers on Mission was sponsored by the Special Ministries Department of HMB.

Many of the early campers were not retired and did not have RV's. They camped in tents; others had small pop top tent campers. It wasn't until 1974, when the Knowltons from Montgomery joined, that the ALCOM had its first retired couple with a RV. Owning an RV or being retired still is not a requirement for membership. There are many mission opportunities where you can stay in a tent, sleep in a church or in the facility where you are doing mission work.

In 1997, three SBC agencies (HMB, Brotherhood Commission, and Radio and Television Commission) combined to create a new national agency, the North American Mission Board (NAMB). The Adult Volunteer Mobilization (AVM) Team of NAMB sponsored the Campers on Mission until 2011 with the idea of motivating Christians who were already campers to become more visible in sharing their faith in campgrounds. The idea caught on and has been growing ever since. The ministry has spread from campgrounds to a multitude of areas, including church construction projects and disaster relief. Today COMers serve in any area of mission or ministry that the Holy Spirit leads.

Since the 2011 organizational changes at NAMB, the Campers on Mission has continued a cooperative relationship with NAMB. NAMB needs volunteers, and the Campers on Mission is a pool of volunteers. Organizationally, each autonomous COM chapter works with its state Baptist convention. National organizational structure is provided by a committee of the chapter presidents supported by regional representatives and a national coordinator.

The COMers primary focus continues to be reaching the lost *as we go*. We emphasize witnessing, servant evangelism and the participation in mission projects. While involved in mission projects such as construction, our campers are also busy getting involved in *reaching the lost* in the surrounding area.

Currently, there are 28 chapters which cover 39 states. National Campers on Mission rallies are held each summer, usually in June. The national rally is a time for fellowship, training conferences, and selection of future mission opportunities.

### **National Campers on Mission Rallies, 1972-to date**

1972 May 19-21	Rushing Creek Campground, Land between the Lakes, Ky.
1973 June 8-10	Portland, Ore.
1974	No rally because of gas shortage
1975 July 18-20	Woodland Park, Colo.
1976 July 16-18	Jamestown Beach Campground, Jamestown, Va.
1977 July 15-17	Ramada Camp Inn Toledo Bend Lake, Many, La.
1978 Aug. 4-6	Lakewood Camping Resort Myrtle Beach, N.C.
1979 June 8-10	Safari Camping Resort Pigeon Forge, Tenn.
1980 June 27-29	RTA Campground Oklahoma City, Okla.
1981	Yogi Bear Campground Petersburg, Ill.
1982 June 23-26	Knoxville, Tenn.
1983 June 24 - 26	Peach Queen Campground, Jemison, Ala.
1984 June 18-20	Heart of Texas Campground, Waco, Texas
1985 June 21-23	Fairgrounds Kosciusko, Miss.
1986 June 20-22	Norfolk Lake Henderson, Ark.
1987 June 26-28	Orlando, Fla.
1988 June 24-26	Stone Mountain, Ga.
1989 June 19-25	Guthrie Fairgrounds Guthrie, Okla.
1990 June 19-24	Harry Smith Lodge Lafayette, La.
1991 June 7-9	Happy Holiday Family Campground, Cherokee, N.C.
1992 June 16-18	Logan County Fairground Lincoln, Ill.
1993 June 22-25	Tres Rios RV Park Glen Rose, Texas
1994 June 20-24	Leon County Fairgrounds Tallahassee, Fla.
1995 June 13-15	Fairgrounds Hope, Ark.
1996 June 18-21	Greenwood Civic Center Greenwood, Miss.
1997 June 10-11	Kansas State Fairgrounds Hutchinson, Kan.
1998 June 16-18	Missouri State Fairgrounds Sedalia, Mo.
1999 June 8-10	Georgia National Fairgrounds, Perry, Ga.
2000 June 18-23	Expo Center Shawnee, Okla.
2001 June 18-22	Civic Center Rayne, La.
2002 June 5-7	Lakewood Camping Resort Myrtle Beach, S.C.
2003 June 9-11	Colorado State Fairgrounds, Pueblo, Colo.
2004 June 2-4	National Peanut Festival Dothan, Ala.
2005 June 1-4	Heart of Texas Fair Complex, Waco, Texas
2006 June 7-9	Dixie Classic Fairground Winston Salem, N.C.

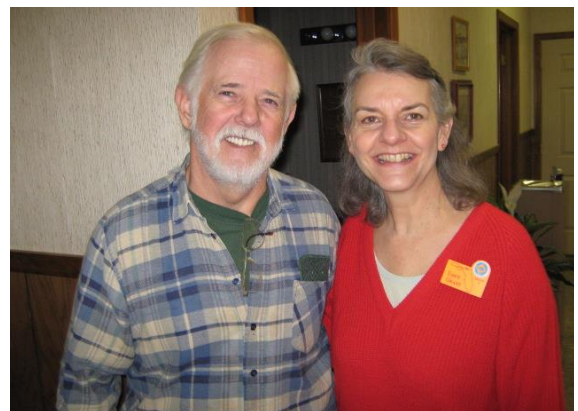
2007 June 20-22	James Ward Exposition Center, Lebanon, Tenn.
2008 June 18-20	Ft. Smith, Arkansas
2009 June 17-19	Gillette, Wyoming
2010 June 9-11	Duquoin, Illinois
2011 June 8-10	Farmers Opry, Chumuckla, Florida
2012 July 18-20	Rayne Louisiana
2013 June 19-21	Mineola, Texas
2014 June 3 – 5	Glorieta, New Mexico
2015 June 16-18	Marion, North Carolina
2016 June	MOCOM
2017 June 20-22	Dothan, Alabama

For a more detailed history of the Campers on Mission go to the Campers on Mission history book, published separately.

David & Marilyn Webb working on  
the 100+ year old Lafite House



True servant Christians  
Dave & Dawn Grant



Campers in prayer at a national rally



Future campers racing off to a mission project



## CHAPTER 6 - THE EFFECTIVE CHAPTER

While each chapter is completely autonomous and reflects the needs and personalities of its membership, below are some ideas and practices which have been successfully implemented by active chapters to help improve their mission efforts.

### **Promotes Jesus and Campers on Mission.**

The effective chapter promotes the COM at every possible opportunity. The members wear their shirts, caps, name tags and vests to initiate discussions on our organization which will lead to opportunities to share Jesus. They will make formal presentations of the organization at churches, events, organizations, RV rallies, state church conventions, or wherever they are given an opportunity. They distribute brochures and cards at RV and church related businesses such as campgrounds, RV repair and sales facilities, fairs, churches, etc. They submit written articles to magazines, newsletters, newspapers, websites, and other written publications available to the public.

While promoting the COM, the campers will continue to focus on their primary objective of witnessing, evangelism and reaching the lost for Jesus.

### **Introduces new members to the ministry.**

Nothing generates enthusiasm to participate in an organization any more than feeling included. When each new member is accepted into a chapter, the effective **chapter president** sends him a welcome letter or email which includes a copy of the bylaws, the current roster, a current schedule of events, a listing of projects the chapter is working on and guidance on how to get involved in the projects. New members should also be provided a copy of the national COM manual. To reduce cost, these documents can be sent via email or on a CD, unless the new member does not use computers.

The effective **chapter project coordinator**, or someone serving in that role, should send the new member a letter or email welcoming them to the chapter, inviting them to participate in on-going projects, explaining how to get involved in the ministry projects, and requesting information about the types of skills the new members have that might be useful to the ministry.

The effective **chapter chaplain** will send the new members a letter welcoming them into the chapter, inviting them to share their prayer request with him and asking for their support of praying for all the prayer requests that he sends out to the membership.

The effective chapter assigns someone the responsibility to **mentor** the new member. The mentor frequently communicates with the new member to make sure they are aware of just what is happening within the chapter and how to get involved. The mentor should invite the new members to participate on projects and rallies with him. As the new members develop their own network of contacts within the organization, the mentor's role will diminish.

The effective **regional wagon master or director** within the chapter should send a welcoming letter to the new members which outline the geographical area of the chapter the new member has joined and shares the activities of the geographical area. The letter should make sure the new member feels welcomed and needed.

At each chapter-wide rally, the effective chapter holds a **new member class** for all the new members and their mentors. At this class the key officers will share how the chapter functions, how to locate mission projects, how to get involved in mission projects, where to direct questions, share about national rallies, and will entertain questions from new members. New members should also be encouraged to attend a new members' class at national rally.

### **Communicates within the chapter.**

The effective chapter knows that feeling included is critical to members' morale and enthusiasm, so they make sure all the membership is kept informed of each activity within the organization. It requires a bit of work, but it definitely boosts the ministry's output of reaching lost souls.

A periodic list of prayer needs may be used to keep the membership praying for the members and ministry needs. The chapter chaplain is a good candidate to keep this list going. Each member is asked to send prayer request to the chaplain for distribution to the membership.

The effective chapter has one person responsible for keeping a listing of the ministry opportunities available to the members, including supporting church planters. The listing includes projects both inside and outside the chapter's geographical area. The listing is periodically distributed to all the members. It includes the project name, dates, project coordinator with contact information, skills needed on the project, number of volunteers needed and conditions/facilities available at site. It also provides the process to add additional projects or mission needs to the listing. This listing is also shared with members of other chapters to ensure more campers have an opportunity to participate.

The effective chapter gives God the glory for all chapter accomplishments through praise reports in different venues. The individual members submit praise reports as described in this manual. The chapter allows members an opportunity to share project praise reports at rallies and meetings. Accomplishments are shared in newsletters and on the websites. A summary of all the individual chapter members accomplishments are submitted to the national coordinator each year by May 10th.

### **Communicates outside the chapter.**

The effective chapter maintains a strong line of communications with their **state convention liaison**. The closer this relationship, the better the chapter can function. Many chapters work closely enough with the state convention that they are included under the state conventions 501-C tax exempt status. Other chapters have their own chapter 501-C tax exempt status. Many state conventions provide financial and personnel support to the chapters and their functions. Some state convention liaisons are active members of the chapter.

The effective chapter maintains a strong line of communication with their **COM regional representative**. He is included in all chapter mailings including prayer requests, projects information, ministry opportunities, invitations to chapter rallies and social functions, updates of the roster, etc. The regional representative should be considered a member of each chapter in his region and included in the executive committee and business meetings. The chapter officers should consider the regional representative as support staff and request his assistance as needed.

The effective chapter maintains a frequent line of communications with the **COM national coordinator**. While the national coordinator's primary role is working with the regional representatives, his level of effectiveness is controlled by his level of understanding of the chapters needs. The chapters should send him copies of their newsletters, rosters, invitations to their chapter rallies, prayer requests, and information on projects and ministries needing volunteers. They also make sure the **annual chapter praise report** is submitted each year to the national coordinator.

The effective chapter makes sure that their chapter submits chapter news and information on mission projects and ministries needing COM support to the **national newsletter editor** each March, June, September and December. Individual members should be encouraged to submit interesting articles on members, chapter functions and accomplishments, proposed chapter events, and success stories. This is the time to give praise reports for all God has accomplished through your chapter. It is also a way to recognize your members. The chapter may choose to incorporate their chapter newsletter into the national newsletter.

The effective chapter maintains a **chapter website** or maintains a chapter presence on the national COM website. The website can be an effective tool to share the COM with potential members and to share mission and ministry opportunities with the COMers in numerous chapters.

### **Recognizes members.**

The effective chapter realizes that recognition bolsters the spirits of the recipients and encourages the non-recipients to be more involved. Many of our members have served for many years and their abilities are becoming a bit limited. The effective chapter recognizes the long serving members with a plaque, certificate or other memento of their appreciation. Members that have gone above and beyond expectations are also awarded plaques, certificate or other memento as an expression of appreciation. Members can also be honored by including a write up on them in the national newsletter, a website, a newspaper, a periodical or a chapter newsletter.

### **Maintains strong organizational structure.**

The effective chapter members realize that they are responsible for the quality of officers elected in their chapter. The nominating committee must vet each nominee to ensure they are willing to carry out the roles of office. While a member holds a specific office, he should give the roles of that office a higher priority than his personal ministry. This will have a minimal negative impact on his personal ministry and a big positive impact on the chapter's accomplishments. The chapter should have specific term limits for each of the positions to allow a turnover in officers and prevent individual "burnout" by allowing more members to help carry the burden of organizational responsibilities.

### **Maintains the chapter history.**

The effective chapter maintains a chapter history so that new members and others can be aware of the effort involved to get the chapter to its current status. The chapter history should instill pride in the current members and encourage them to do better to improve the organization. The effective member will work to make sure he leaves the organization in a better position than they found it.

The chapter history information should be shared with the national COM history book editor: Judy Smith, 7615 NW CR146, Jennings, Florida 32053, (386) 792-2207, cell (386)303-1140.

### **Maintains a current roster.**

The effective chapter maintains a current roster which includes all the new members and has deleted each of the members who are no longer interested in participating. The chapter bylaws will spell out the definition for non- participation. Some chapters use two years as the appropriate length of time before someone is removed from the roster. There should be a listing of campers who are no longer able to participate, but want to stay informed of what is happening within the chapter. These ex-campers can become the chapter prayer warriors and/or ambassadors that dedicate many hours of prayer for the chapter and telling others about the chapter in an attempt to generate new members. The effective chapter makes sure that their regional representative has a current copy of the chapter roster.

### **Maintains a listing of free campsites.**

With the declining economy, many campers must work to stay within their travel budgets. At least three chapters have campsites around their geographical area that COMers can stay at for free when traveling to mission projects. Some of these are located at church camps, churches, Director of Mission offices, campgrounds, etc. The effective chapter is always open to identifying such sites and sharing the information with campers coming to work in their chapter area. When churches are putting in temporary utilities for campers during a project, the effective COM project coordinator discusses the option of making them permanent for the use of traveling campers, evangelists, etc. It saves the church the cost of removing the utilities. The effective chapter has one person responsible for keeping and sharing the listing of campsites in their region. The newsletters and websites are effective sharing the listing of campsites.

### **Holds periodic rallies.**

Chapter rallies are a great tool to draw the chapter together and facilitate communications. Campers hear preaching, devotionals and gospel music every day. Quality gospel music and outstanding preaching have a place in all rallies, but should not fill the entire program. The key to improving rally attendance is interesting seminars, workshops and presentations that relate to the campers and training the campers. Each rally should share mission/ministry opportunities and allow campers to share some of their praise reports. Business meeting should be conducted in such a way that everyone feels their input is important and considered.

Work projects scheduled in conjunction with the rally will enhance attendance and build on the comradery of the rally.

Rallies and projects are the two locations campers build their network of camper contacts. Both should have sufficient social interaction to build the network of contacts.



## CHAPTER 7 - HOW TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL MISSION TRIP

### The purpose of a mission trip

A mission trip is a spiritual experience which, if planned correctly, can be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life. The trip may consist of starting a new church, construction, Backyard Bible Clubs, and ministering at fairs, festivals, parades, raceways, seamen's ministry, and a lot more. America has a great need for volunteers to reach the lost and help with the needs of ministries and churches. The Bible states that a voluntary, freewill response is the only basis on which God desires man to worship, serve, and relate to Him and mankind. To volunteer is to offer one's self for service with this type of response. 1 Peter 4:10 tell us, *"Based on the gift they first have received, everyone should use it to serve others, as good managers of the varied grace of God."*

The call to Christian missions is a progressive and abiding relationship with Christ. It begins in the initial new birth experience when the disciple voluntarily opens him/herself up to whatever God will do with them at a given moment, with the confidence that moment by moment submission will accomplish the overall purpose for that life in Christ. The Christian is then free to find his/her own way of expressing his/her gift(s) under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. The willing, voluntary submission to Christ's Lordship is only the beginning of an ongoing and continually growing relationship. Mission trips provide an opportunity to seek God's will, grow in his love, and become ever more committed to serving his purposes in this world. They are life-changing experiences. This is why you should be prepared to share your personal testimony. It is the basis of your witness. It is your story, your eyewitness account of what God has done and is doing with Christ in your life. Your testimony communicates. It is language that people can understand. It is an example of reality, not just theory.

### How to plan a mission trip

- **Plan the Place to Go.**

The sources of mission opportunities are as varied as the opportunities themselves. Most Campers on Mission projects are located through personal networking between the campers. The longer a member has been in the organization, the larger his personal network of contacts. Many of the chapters have a listing of projects they are pursuing. Contact the chapter president or state project coordinator, who will share these opportunities with you. Some chapters list projects and mission opportunities on their chapter website. The campers initiated a quarterly national electronic newsletter in July 2011. Future issues of the newsletter will contain some mission opportunities. The national Campers on Mission website [www.campersonmission.net](http://www.campersonmission.net) has listings of mission projects. After you decide where to go, God will decide the team. Pray for laborers.

- **Plan the Details of the Mission.**

Study your plans carefully. Check to make sure all materials will be on site as needed. What equipment is needed to complete the project? Select your team. No game can be played by one person. Examples of responsibilities might include construction leader, safety officer, kitchen leaders, Bible Club or VBS leaders, music leader, historian, and photographer.

## Some Be's That Contribute to Success

- **Be flexible.** Roll with the punches. Regardless of what happens say, "Praise God, no problem." Think of the best interests of the team and the project, not yourself. Be adaptable!
- **Be a servant.** Pitch in and help anywhere you can. No job is more important than another. Be a helper. Do the job that you know best how to do, but offer to be a helper when the task is unfamiliar to you. You may learn a new skill!
- **Be positive.** Don't complain about anything; don't even think about it! Make the best of every situation. It may be *different*, not *bad*.
- **Be supportive.** Keep a good attitude, especially about other team members. Remember, everyone is a little strange but you! Offer continuous words of encouragement.
- **Be punctual.** Be at your appointed places on time; don't make the group wait.
- **Be responsible.** Keep up with your belongings at the campsite and worksite.
- **Be wise.** Keep safety in mind at all times. Don't do unsafe things. If you see an unsafe practice, offer a suggestion for a safer way to do the job. Talk to the safety team leader.
- **Be light-hearted.** Smile a lot! Have fun with your group. Don't take the mission project so seriously that you lose sight of witnessing.
- **Be spiritual.** Pray and let the Lord talk with you about His plan for your life.
- **Be loving.** "*Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love makes up for many of your faults*" (1 Peter 4:8 TLB).

## Some Do's That Contribute to Success

- **Safety first.** If in doubt, don't! Don't take any chances. You are better off to take a little longer at the job and not get hurt. Look out for each other's safety.
- **Pace yourself.** Do not overdo it in the heat. Get in out of the sun and rest a lot. Take a nap during lunch break. You know your limitations.
- **Drink a lot of liquids.** However, don't drink too many soft drinks. Water is better for you.
- **Work together as a team.** Don't worry about who gets the credit for a job well done. Remember that no job is more important than another. All volunteers are necessary.
- **Keep up with your tools at all times.** Engrave or mark your tools with your identifying mark. Gather up and clean your tools at the end of the day. Don't leave the work site until everything is cleaned up and put away. Cooperate with each other by returning tools to their owner.
- **Keep your head covered.**
- **Lift properly and get help if the object is too heavy.**
- **Do your best.** Volunteer work does not have to be and should not be substandard.
- **Enjoy yourself!** Both *work* and *witness* in all you do throughout the day.
- **Remember we are Kingdom Builders.** "*My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.*" (1 John 3:18)

**Consent/Release Form for Children and Youth Under 18  
attending Campers on Mission Function/Mission**

All children and youth under age 18 must complete this form and have the signature of a parent or grandparent before they can participate in Campers on Mission activities. All sections must be completed.

Please print legibly.

**Participant Information**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**In Case of Emergency**

Person #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (night) \_\_\_\_\_

Person #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (night) \_\_\_\_\_

**Medical Profile**

Generally, my health is (check one) \_\_\_\_\_ Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Poor If fair or poor, please explain your condition: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

List any medications you are currently taking: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

List any medicines or substances to which you are allergic: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Family Physician \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Physician Address \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Policy number \_\_\_\_\_

**Authorization for Medical Treatment**

For myself and for and on behalf of my participating child/grandchild under age 18, I hereby give permission for any physician, hospital, or health care facility to provide medical care, treatment, and administer medication to participant as deemed necessary by a physician or the Campers on Mission first aid station.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Release of All Claims**

For and in consideration of participation in Campers on Mission activities, I hereby acknowledge that we understand that there could be some risks involved, and we hereby assume all such risks. I hereby release the Southern Baptist Convention and all of its agents, employees, officers, and directors, including all Campers on Mission staff, from any and all risks, actions, causes of action, claims, demands, liabilities and obligations of any and every nature whatsoever, including, without limitation, for illness, personal injury, death, property damage, and personal or proprietary rights, and hereby hold the Southern Baptist Convention harmless and agree to fully indemnify the Southern Baptist Convention from and against any and all claims.

I hereby personally assume full responsibility for any and all claims and for any and all hospital and medical bills for myself and participant. I hereby certify that I have obtained and will maintain in full force and effect adequate primary medical insurance for myself and participant. In the event it is necessary for me or participant to return home due to disciplinary action, for medical reasons, or otherwise, I hereby personally assume full responsibility for all such transportation arrangements and costs.

### **Consent to Use and Publication of Image**

I hereby give Campers on Mission the absolute, unconditional, and irrevocable right and permission to use my name and Participant's name and to use, reproduce, edit, exhibit, project, display, copyright, and publish, photographic images and/or moving pictures and/or videotape images of me and/or Participant, with or without voice, in which I and/or Participant are included, in whole or in part, photographed, taped, videotaped, and/or recorded prior to, during and/or after the Campers on Mission event and to circulate same in any and all forms and media for art and advertising, and I hereby consent to the use of all printed matter in conjunction therewith and waive all rights to inspect and/or approve drafts, finished products, and/or editorial, promotional, and printed copy and sound tracks that may be used in connection therewith, and waive all rights to control any aspect of any production, alteration, use, distribution or disposition of said products, copy, and/or sound tracks, and hereby discharge and agree to hold the Campers on Mission harmless and fully indemnify the Campers on Mission from and against any and all claims arising by virtue of any blurring, distortion, alteration, optical illusion, or use in composite form, whether intentional or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in the production, processing, duplication, projecting, or displaying of said images of me and/or Participant, and from any and all claims for violation of any personal and all proprietary rights me or the Participant may have or may claim to have in connection with such images and with the production, alteration, use, distribution, and disposition thereof

**Please complete and sign below (youth under 18 years requires parent/custodial signature).**

Participant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Father/Custodial Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother/Custodial Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Campers on Mission Release and Indemnity Agreement

I do hereby represent and acknowledge that I am entering upon a missionary venture with others and that as a volunteer am paying my own expense, including insurance, for the purpose of helping in a Campers on Mission event for the glory of God and to demonstrate my faith in Christ; that the work may at times be hazardous and somewhat arduous; and that I may be working with other volunteers who may or may not be professionally trained.

I recognize and acknowledge potential accidents at the work site involving motor vehicles in or about the living, sleeping, and eating areas, or during activities of the Campers on Mission group; am fully aware of possible injuries to members of the group, including myself.

Therefore, I desire to protect, release, acquit, indemnify, and hold harmless from any and all claims, injuries, damages, losses, expenses or attorney fees incurred by me, my heirs, administrators, executors, or assigns.

I attest and certify that I have no medical conditions that would prevent me from performing my duties.

No insurance coverage is provided to volunteers by the Campers on Mission chapter or state convention. Personal liability is the responsibility of the volunteer. I further recognize that such risks have always been associated with missionary service (2 Corinthians 11:23-28). For and on behalf of myself, my heirs, administrator, executors, assigns and all other persons, firms or corporations, I do hereby release and discharge from liability all other persons on the Campers on Mission team with me, those who notified, selected or assigned me to said team, the \_\_\_\_\_ (Campers on Mission chapter), the \_\_\_\_\_ (state Baptist convention), the North American Mission Board, the Southern Baptist Convention, missionaries, local churches, local ministries, their employees and representatives, successors or assigns, from any claims, demands, damages, actions, or causes of actions which I, the undersigned, have or may hereafter and on account of, or any way growing out of injuries or damages both to persons or property resulting or that may hereafter result from the voluntary venture.

I further state that I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THE FORGOING ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS, AND I VOLUNTARILY SIGN THIS RELEASE AS MY OWN FREE ACT. THIS IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT AND I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT WITH AN ATTORNEY BEFORE SIGNING IT.

Witness my hand on this, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT:** Please have two witnesses observe your signature and have them sign below. They must be at least 18 years of age and should not be relatives.

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## **CHAPTER 8 - HOW TO HOST A NATIONAL CAMPERS ON MISSION RALLY**

Approximately 16 to 18 teams/committees are needed to conduct national Campers on Mission rally. Each team has a team leader, and together the team leaders make up the Executive Team. In smaller chapters, everyone serves to help each team. The Executive Team and the functional teams should be in place two years prior to the national rally. The rally should be scheduled to not conflict with the annual Southern Baptist Convention, so that Campers on Mission may attend both functions.

### **Team/Position Functions and Responsibilities**

#### **1. National Rally Executive Team**

- Made up of Executive Team Leader, Assistant Executive Team leader, each of the functional team leaders, and the host state chapter president (ex-officio)
- Coordinate all rally activities.
- Keep the regional representatives and national coordinator updated on activities.

#### **2. Budget Team**

- Led by Assistant Executive Team Leader
- Develop financial procedures for the obligation of funds, payment of invoices, etc.
- Establish/maintain a bank account for receipt and disbursement of rally funds.
- Monitor and maintain records of all receipts and expenditures.
- Assist team leaders in developing and managing their budgets.
- Explore and recommend fund raising activities for the rally.
- Pursue funding to support national rally efforts.
- Prepare financial reports for distribution to chapter and others as needed.

#### **3. Bulletin Board and Message Center Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Identify campground personnel and inform them of procedures for normal and emergency message notification in coordination with the campground manager.
- Make sure campground address and telephone numbers are included on the registration forms in coordination with the Registration Team.
- Obtain and maintain a bulletin board(s) and message center at the main meeting place. A PowerPoint slide show projected on a large screen is an excellent way to get messages out.
- Obtain assistance in locating personnel in the event of emergencies.
- Coordinate with the Registration and Parking Teams.

#### **4. Children's Activities Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Use day camping, Big A, VBS, or other reliable age-graded curriculum.
- Plan religious programs, games, fellowship, and other appropriate activities for children and youth daily during the rally's workshop periods and worship services.



- Coordinate with the Program and Pre-Rally Tours and Activities Teams for proper times of activities.
- Ensure that all activity areas are conducted with adequate supervision, safety, security, and accountability.
- The Children's Activities Team will always secure parent or guardian approval with a signed consent form whenever leaving the campground.
- The Children's Activities Team may secure assistance from a local church or youth group to conduct the children's activities.
- The ratio of adults to children should be:
  - Youth - one leader to 12 participants
  - Children - one leader to six participants
  - Preschoolers - one leader to four participants

## **5. Crafts Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Explore the feasibility of holding craft workshops.
- Plan and coordinate craft activities for the National Campers on Mission Rally.
- Coordinate with Educational Activities Team where applicable for craft workshops.
- Coordinate with Pre-Rally Tours and Activities Team where applicable for craft activities.
- Coordinate with Campers on Mission personnel, local interested city personnel, and campground manager to display crafts.
- Limit craft workshops and activities to Camper on Missions attendees.

## **6. Crisis Center and First Aid Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Develop procedures and support for providing a crisis/first aid center.
- Obtain a site to establish the crisis/first aid center in coordination with the campground manager and the national rally Executive Team leader.
- Coordinate health care support, emergency care, and emergency vehicle support with local health officials.
- Obtain necessary personnel to staff the crisis/first aid center (usually a retired doctor or a nurse), a rescue squad, and fire department.
- Communicate crisis/first aid procedures and information about the crisis/first aid center to rally attendees in coordination with the Program Team.

## **7. Decorations/Door Prize Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Develop and install decorations for campground.
- Develop and install decorations for the main meeting place to support the selected theme.
- In coordination with the Program Team, arrange tables, chairs, and stage at main meeting place.
- Collect door prizes and direct a plan for their distribution.
- Coordinate with the Program Team for the placement on the program of awarding door prizes.

## **8. Educational Activities Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Plan for and coordinate the educational activities (workshops and seminars).
- The potential pool of speakers considered should include representatives from the host state Baptist convention, the national coordinator, the regional representatives, and skilled Campers on Mission from several chapters. They should be asked a year in advance of the rally.
- Plan for and coordinate the mission fair program and activities.
- Obtain personnel, equipment, and exhibits to support the mission/craft fair program activities.

## **9. Food and Refreshment Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Plan and coordinate meals.
- Coordinate with the Registration Team to place meal prices on the registration form.
- Plan and provide donuts/cookies/coffee/juice, etc. each morning.
- Plan and coordinate evening refreshments.
- Ensure that all supplies are available to support refreshments, meals, etc.
- Plan for the needs of disabled and handicapped participants.

## **10. Hospitality Bags Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Plan, assemble, and distribute hospitality bags to each family attending the rally and to each program personality.
- Coordinate with the Registration Team to determine the number of bags needed.
- Coordinate with the Children's Activity Team to identify and obtain any required prizes for the children's activities.
- Request items for the hospitality bags from the state Baptist convention and the North American Mission Board.

## **11. Facilities and Parking Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Use golf carts, bicycles, campers, etc. at stations.
- Provide two way radios for communication so the rigs can be parked easily.
- Plan and coordinate with the Registration Team the receiving of incoming rally attendees and the parking of their RVs.
- Assist attendees with hook-ups of their RVs.
- Identify and assist in the parking of handicapped attendees.
- Coordinate with the Message Center Team and Registration Team on posting the location of RVs and attendees on a central message board so that rapid notification can be made in case of emergency. (Know where everyone is camped.)
- Assist the Decorations Team in set up and arrangement of tables, chairs, and stage in the main meeting place.
- Provide space, tables, and chairs for the Campers on Missions store and displays.

- Plan for and coordinate departure procedures of attendees from the campground.

## **12. Program Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Select a theme for the rally.
- Plan and secure the program personalities (at least a year in advance) to include music leaders who can inspire the crowd to participate, special music, entertainment, and speakers.
- Select the Master of Ceremonies for each evening's program.
- Make sure the timeline of the programs is followed. Speakers should speak 30 minutes or less and promotion of next year's rally should be no more than 10 minutes.
- Secure morning devotional speaker.
- Ensure that commitments of program personalities are made in writing.
- Ensure travel and lodging accommodations for program personalities are provided.
- Provide a host or hostess for each program personality when appropriate.

## **13. Promotion Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- If possible start two years in advance to plan and provide promotion through national meetings, web sites, and publications.
- Plan for and arrange publicity for the rally to include the state Baptist newspaper, other newspapers, TV stations, radio stations, and web sites.
- Issue an invitation to local churches to attend the rally.
- Coordinate with appropriate teams to ensure sufficient information is available about the rally to provide adequate publicity.
- Share information about the rally with the North American Mission liaison, and state Baptist conventions 12 months in advance of the rally.

## **14. Registration Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Prepare a registration form and send it to the regional representatives and chapter presidents before November 15 the year before the rally.
- Design and provide name tags for rally attendees (name tag should reflect theme of the rally).
- Plan for, coordinate, and conduct a speedy registration of attendees.
- Have several registration stations to avoid long waits.
- Maintain an updated list of all registered attendees.
- Share a list of attendees (by chapter) with the Regional representatives and national coordinator via email one month prior to rally and immediately prior to the rally.
- Prepare a list of registered attendees, number of rigs, and participating states for the national Campers on Mission coordinators with daily updates during the rally.
- Plan for, coordinate, and conduct a mail-out of all pre-registration materials.
- Plan for, coordinate, and mail out confirmation and registration materials within two weeks of receiving registration forms.
- Establish a registration deadline and refund policies for the rally.

- Coordinate Registration Team activities with Parking Team (for disabled attendees), Hospitality Bag Team, and Food and Refreshment Team.
- Notify Children's Activity Team of numbers and ages of pre-registered children and youth.

#### **15. Audiovisual Equipment Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Plan for and coordinate with campground manager and other appropriate teams for necessary sound equipment to support all programs and activities.
- Secure best equipment available and have an experienced operator present during sessions.
- Provide microphones, wireless microphones, monitors, and speakers adequate for the size of the rally.
- Provide projectors and screens for workshops, worship services, and other activities of the rally.

#### **16. Pre-Rally Tours and Activities Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Plan for, coordinate, and conduct pre-rally tours.
- Plan, coordinate, and conduct recreational, fellowship, and pre-rally activities.

#### **17. Crisis Control Team**

- Develop a budget and present it to the Budget Team.
- Train all members of the host chapter to serve on the Crisis Control Team.
- Wear state identification (special vests, hats, or shirts if possible) during the rally.
- Plan for and keep activities running smoothly.
- Know who to and how to contact emergency personnel in the event of an emergency.
- Develop an emergency plan and be prepared to activate the plan in the event of an emergency.
- This is one of the most important teams. These are the folks you hope you don't need but they are ready if anything goes wrong.

Note: This team provides support for all types of crisis and emergencies, large or small. On medical emergencies, they provide support to the **Crisis Center and First Aid Team**.

## **CHAPTER 9 - BYLAWS**

### **BYLAWS** of the **CAMPERS ON MISSION** In cooperation with the **STATE CONVENTIONS OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION** (Adopted July 18, 2012)

#### **ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of this organization shall be "CAMPERS ON MISSION"

#### **ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES**

Campers on Mission is a fellowship of evangelical Christian campers who strive for opportunities:

To share their faith and love of Jesus Christ while camping or participating in mission activities.

To bear witness to the saving power of Jesus Christ as stated in God's Holy Word, John 3:16-18.

To relate our Christian faith to those we encounter *As We Go*.

To communicate through word and deed the good life in Jesus Christ.

To be genuine and sensitive in relation to other people.

To use our talents and skills in the furtherance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

To assist churches and associations in planning Campers on Mission projects.

To encourage participation in Regional, State and National Campers on Mission Rallies.

#### **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

Membership shall include all active members of each of the affiliated Camper on Mission chapters in North America.

#### **ARTICLE III - DUES**

No dues or assessments are ever to be charged to the membership; however, volunteer donations are accepted to cover organizational expenditures.

#### **ARTICLE IV - RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES of MEMBERS**

Each member is entitled to an equal voice and vote in the ministry and business of the organization.

Each member is eligible for consideration as a candidate for an elective office.

Each member is responsible for conducting himself/herself in a way that is favorable to Christian witness.

Members shall not use Campers on Mission membership to receive discounts or favors for personal gain.

Members shall openly identify themselves to others and display their Campers on Mission emblem when possible.

Each member shall share prayer requests and special concerns with their chapter officers, regional representatives, and national coordinator as applicable.

## **ARTICLE V - RELATIONSHIPS**

Campers on Mission shall work in close relationship with the autonomous Campers on Mission chapters, and state conventions of the Southern Baptist Convention.

## **ARTICLE VI - POLITY**

Campers on Mission is a self-governing body with the power vested in its members. The membership of each chapter elects a chapter president to represent them at the Chapter Presidents' Meeting, where all significant organizational decisions are made.

Campers on Mission shall not establish or maintain affiliation with any person or organization whose faith and practice violates the principles of faith and practice found in the Bible or set forth in these bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS**

The officers shall be a lead president, a governing body made up of the chapter presidents, a national coordinator, regional representatives and any other officers as may be deemed necessary by the governing body to carry out the responsibilities of Campers on Mission.

## **ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES**

Every committee should meet at least once a year. The governing body made up of chapter presidents is a committee.

## **ARTICLE IX - OFFICERS JOB DESCRIPTION**

### **Chapter Presidents**

The chapter presidents select and empower the regional representatives, who become support staff for the chapter presidents. The chapter presidents collectively have the responsibility to provide the regional representatives and national coordinator oversight and direction. They collectively provide oversight and direction to our national organization. All major organizational decisions that impact numerous chapters will be made by the chapter presidents collectively. They adopted this manual and will adopt subsequent policies to help keep our focus on the main objective of reaching the lost and helping others to reach the lost. Specific decisions or responsibilities can be delegated to an individual or a committee, but the chapter presidents retain the oversight and direction responsibilities.

The chapter presidents collectively have the responsibility to vet, nominate and elect the national coordinator, in accordance with **the policy adopted at the 2012 national rally and included in this manual**. The vetting and nominating of candidates must take place in advance of the presidents' meeting in which the national coordinator is elected.

The regional chapter presidents are responsible for vetting, nominating and holding the election of the regional representative. The vetting and nominating of candidates must take place in advance of the regional meeting in which the regional representative is elected. The regional repre-



sentatives will be elected to 3 year terms by the regional attendees at the national rally, after the regional presidents vet each potential nominee. Regions 1 & 2 will vote in 2013, 2016, 2019 and so on. Regions 3 and 4 will vote in 2014, 2017, 2020 and so on. Regions 5 and 6 will vote in 2012, 2015, 2018 and so on.

The election of a regional representative's successor will occur one year prior to the end of the current regional representative's term. This will give the current regional representative one year to train the successor representative, before the successor representative officially begins to serve as the regional representative. The election dates shown in previous paragraph reflect the election dates of successor regional representatives, not the term limits of serving regional representatives.

In the event a regional representative serves in name only and fails to carry out the roles of position, the regional presidents will collectively talk to their regional representative. If he is willing to fulfill his role as regional representative, the regional presidents can retain him. If he is unable or unwilling to fulfill his role as regional representative, the regional presidents will replace him. Any president within the region can initiate these discussions with the other presidents within the region.

Chapter presidents shall keep their regional representative informed of their chapter's activities.

Chapter presidents shall keep a current chapter roster and share it with the regional representative each time it is updated.

### **Lead President**

The lead president will be the chapter president who hosted the previous national rally. He will schedule and hold the presidents' meetings, at least annually, so they can address the necessary organizational decisions. He will moderate the presidents' meeting unless he specifically delegates that responsibility to the national coordinator. The lead president will prepare and distribute the meeting agenda one month prior to the meeting. He will also make sure the national coordinator prepares and distributes meeting minutes to the attendees within one month after the meeting. A notebook of the past meeting minutes is to be kept and retained by the current lead president.

At each meeting several topics of importance should be discussed.

1. Oversight and direction to our national organizational functions
2. Oversight and direction to the regional representatives and national coordinator
3. Selection of regional representatives and national coordinator in accordance with organizational guidelines
4. Selection of the national rally sites two years prior to the rally date, possibilities having already been determined by lead president
5. Oversight and direction to our national electronic newsletter and website
6. Discussion of specific issues which have come up during the year
7. Review and update of Campers on Mission bylaws, manuals, and guides (at least every 5 years in years divisible by 5)

It should be noted that vice-presidents, regional representatives, the national coordinator, state convention staff, and others as invited may attend the presidents' working meetings. Only the

sitting chapter presidents or the specifically delegated representative of absent presidents have the authority to vote.

### **Regional Representatives**

Regional representatives should be effective facilitators and communicators. Theirs are not leadership positions. They should effectively communicate sufficient pertinent information to enough campers that the chapter officers and members can make the appropriate informed decisions. The regional representative's primary functions are to serve as a regional facilitator, to initiate and encourage communication between state convention personnel, Campers on Mission chapter presidents, and individual Campers on Mission members, work with the national coordinator, state Baptist convention staff, and Campers on Mission chapter leadership.

Regional representatives' specific roles:

1. Maintain a good working relationship with the Campers on Mission national coordinator, Campers on Mission chapter leaders, state Baptist convention staff, and Campers on Mission volunteers.
2. Provide Campers on Mission chapter leaders' support and counsel to strengthen and enhance chapter organization and operations.
3. Provide support for Campers on Mission activities as requested by chapter leaders.
4. Report regional changes for NAMB and national COM website content to national coordinator.
5. Facilitate communication between regional chapters, to share organizational ideas, mission opportunities, prayer requests, and information from regional representatives' meetings.
6. Assist regional chapters in training Campers on Mission volunteers in evangelism, project logistics and how to engage in mission projects, at the request of chapter leadership.
7. Assist interested individuals in areas without a Campers on Mission chapter within assigned region to establish and nurture a new chapter.
8. Promote the Campers on Mission organization to potential members and potential mission opportunities.
9. Help plan and carry out national Campers on Mission rallies held in assigned region at the invitation of the host chapter.
10. Develop and maintain appropriate training materials that are user friendly for Campers on Mission volunteers.
11. Participate in local, state, and national rallies.
12. Maintain a current regional roster to facilitate communicating with the members.
13. Respond to all Campers on Mission related communications within 48 hours.

The regional representative bears a heavy burden. He must focus on keeping everyone in his region informed of mission opportunities, prayer requests, and better organizational operational methods while trying to help strengthen the weaker chapters. These tasks require him to get involved with each of the regional chapters. He will work on projects with them and attend their rallies. He will join each regional chapter to get on their communication distribution lists. He will talk to and work on projects with as many of the individual chapter members as possible. This is the business model that Jesus chose. He wanted his disciples to place their effort at the point of need, without concern for the bureaucratic hindrances placed in their way by the Pharisees. Can we do any less?

Since the regional representative's replacement is elected one year prior to the end of his term, the current representative should use this year to train and involve the replacement in all the current activities of the position. The replacement should be introduced to and become involved with each of the chapters in the region. This is to be done with the intent of maintaining the flow and continuity of each of the position functions.

### **National Coordinator**

The national coordinator's primary functions are to serve as a national facilitator who initiates and supports communication between Campers on Mission regional and chapter representatives, and supports/coordinates the efforts of the regional representatives. In addition the Campers on Mission national coordinator serves as the liaison for the regional representatives and NAMB staff. Please note this position is one of communication and facilitating. As with the area representatives, this is not a leadership position. It is a support role needing a strong servant Christian with good communications and people skills.

The national coordinator's specific roles include the following:

1. Maintaining a good working relationship with NAMB, Campers on Mission regional representatives, chapter leaders, individual campers, potential campers and state convention staff.
2. Working with the regional representatives to develop, implement and operate a national communication plan to promote and facilitate Campers on Mission volunteer mission work.
3. Scheduling and chairing all regional representatives' meetings, including regular quarterly meetings.
4. Calling each regional representative at least quarterly.
5. Gleaning good operational ideas from regional representatives and chapters to share with other regional representatives and chapters.
6. Encouraging regional representatives in the fulfillment of their roles.
7. Arranging for, and facilitating, regional representative elections by chapter presidents.
8. Being familiar with all areas of Campers on Mission operations and mission work.
9. Assisting with, and/or attending, regional and chapter rallies at the invitation of the host chapter as much as possible.
10. Working with host Campers on Mission chapter(s) and the appropriate regional representative to plan and carry out national Campers on Mission rallies for the training and support of chapter, association, and church volunteers.
11. Working with regional and state chapter representatives to develop and maintain appropriate training materials.
12. Responding to all Campers on Mission related communications within 48 hours.

## **ARTICLE X - CODE OF ETHICS**

All Campers on Mission members shall abide by the following code of ethics.

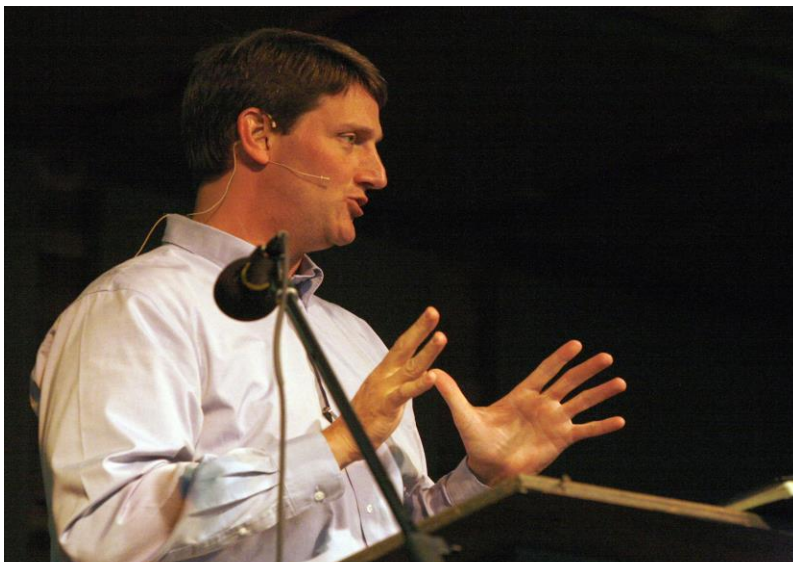
- To be mindful of our responsibility to God concerning our actions.
- To live and act in such a manner that reflects Jesus in our lives.
- To maintain our campsite/parking area in a proper manner.
- To abide by park rules at all times.
- To assist other campers when the opportunity presents itself

## ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended at any regular presidents' meeting by a two-thirds majority vote of the chapter presidents present, providing that a written notice of the proposed amendment(s) was sent to the Presidents not less than two (2) months before the meeting at which a vote will be taken.



Attendees at COM sponsored Camp Meeting  
at Denton Farm Park, Denton, NC



Camp Meeting evangelist Jonathan Lotz, grandson of Billy  
Graham and son of Anne Graham Lotz.

## CHAPTER 10- ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Campers on Mission Enrollment Form

Attachment 2 – Selecting Regional Representatives

Attachment 3 – Selecting a National Coordinator



Joan and Charles  
Thompkins collect  
tickets at the fair



Barbara Dykes  
paints pretty  
faces at the fair



## CAMPERS ON MISSION ENROLLMENT FORM

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name (Last)	First	MI	Preferred Name	Birthdate (Self)
Spouse Name			Preferred Name	Birthdate (Spouse)
Street Address		City	State	ZIP/Postal Code
Telephone (home)	Cell Phone		E-mail Address	
Have you participated in a mission project? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			Project assigned through: <input type="checkbox"/> NAMB <input type="checkbox"/> State Convention <input type="checkbox"/> Association <input type="checkbox"/> Church <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
If yes, date of last mission project _____				
If full-time COM, what state chapter: _____				

### CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Church Name _____	Name of Pastor _____
Street Address _____	Name of Association _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP (9 digits) _____	Church Denominational Affiliation: _____
Telephone (____) _____ E-mail _____	<input type="checkbox"/> SBC <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____

### INTERESTS/TALENTS/GIFTS

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

LIST AREAS OF SPECIAL TRAINING AND/OR LICENSE:

SELF	SPOUSE
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Campground Ministries
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Church Planting
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction/Maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Relief and Recovery
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Fairs/Festival/Special Events
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Surveys/Revivals
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Sharing Personal Testimony
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> State Convention Booths
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> VBS/Bible Studies, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Clowning/Balloon Sculpturing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Raceway Ministry
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Seaman's Ministry
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Medical/Dental

### EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State/Province _____ ZIP _____
Telephone (____) _____ E-mail _____

DATE FORM COMPLETED

\_\_\_\_\_



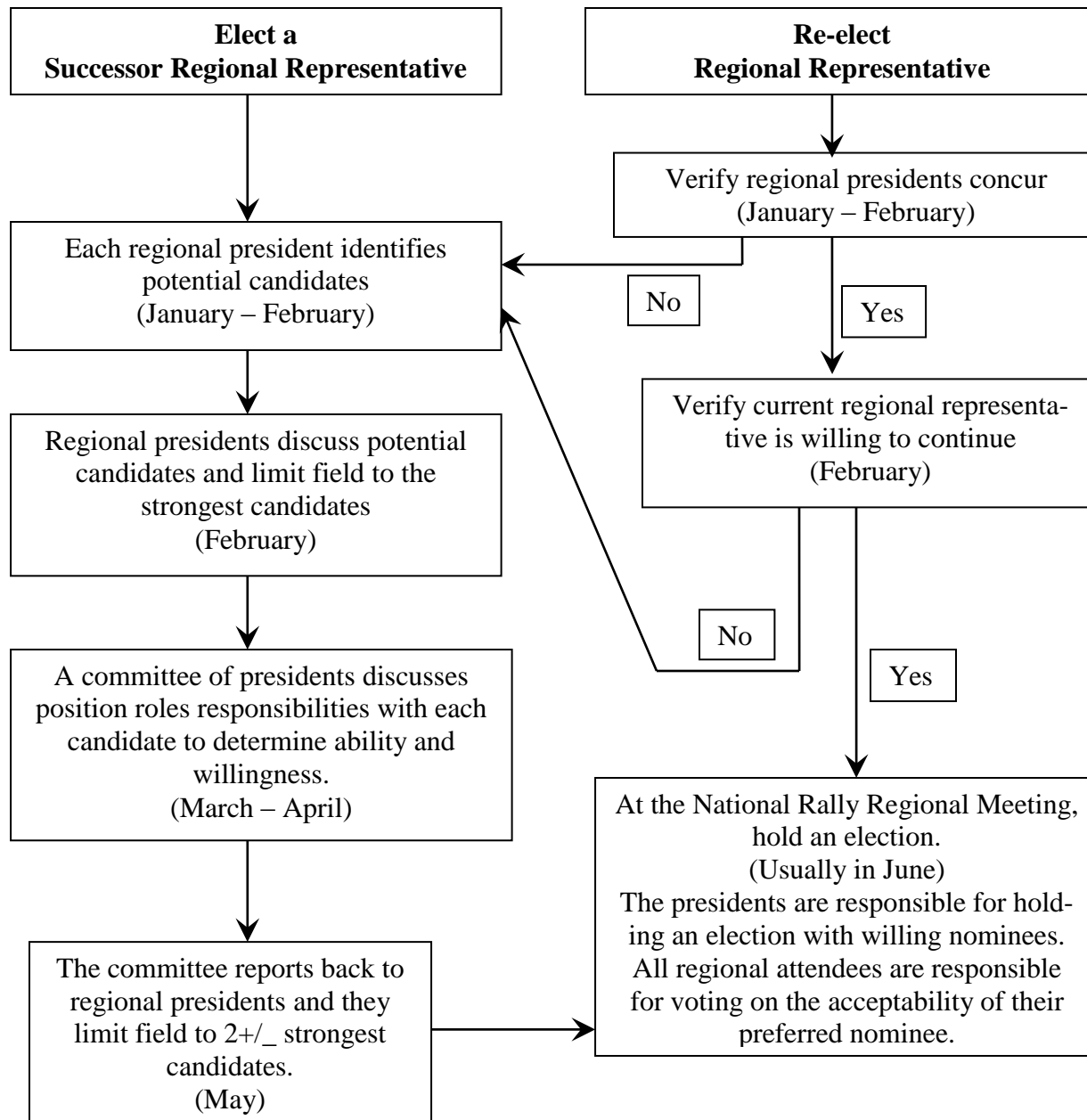
Return form to: **President of chapter you wish to join.**



## Attachment 2 – Selecting Regional Representatives

Each year during the regional meetings at the national rally, the chapter presidents in two regions will hold an election for the successor regional representatives. The lead president is responsible for making sure the regional presidents complete the vetting and nominating tasks before the election is held. It should be accomplished as follows:

### DECISION PROCESS FOR SELECTING REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES



The regional chapter presidents are responsible for vetting, nominating and electing the regional representatives. The lead president's role is to remind them in a timely manner of the needed actions.

The regional representatives will be elected to 3 year terms by the regional attendees at the national rally, after the regional presidents vet each potential nominee. Regions 1 & 2 will vote in 2013, 2016, 2019 and so on. Regions 3 and 4 will vote in 2014, 2017, 2020 and so on. Regions 5 and 6 will vote in 2012, 2015, 2018 and so on.

To allow for training of newly elected regional representatives and continuity of practices and programs in place, the election of a regional representative's successor will occur one year prior to the end of the current regional representative's term. This will give the current regional representative one year to train the successor representative, before the successor representative officially begins to serve as the regional representative. The election dates shown in previous paragraph, reflect the election dates of successor regional representatives, not the term limits of serving regional representatives.

Regional representatives serve as regional facilitators. In that capacity they initiate and encourage communication between state convention staff, chapter officers, membership, potential members and others. This role requires the ability to effectively communicate and distribute information throughout the region so that chapter officers and members can make appropriate decisions. A strong servant Christian with good communication and people skills is vital to this position, as is his willingness to hold in abeyance personal mission efforts during his term of office.

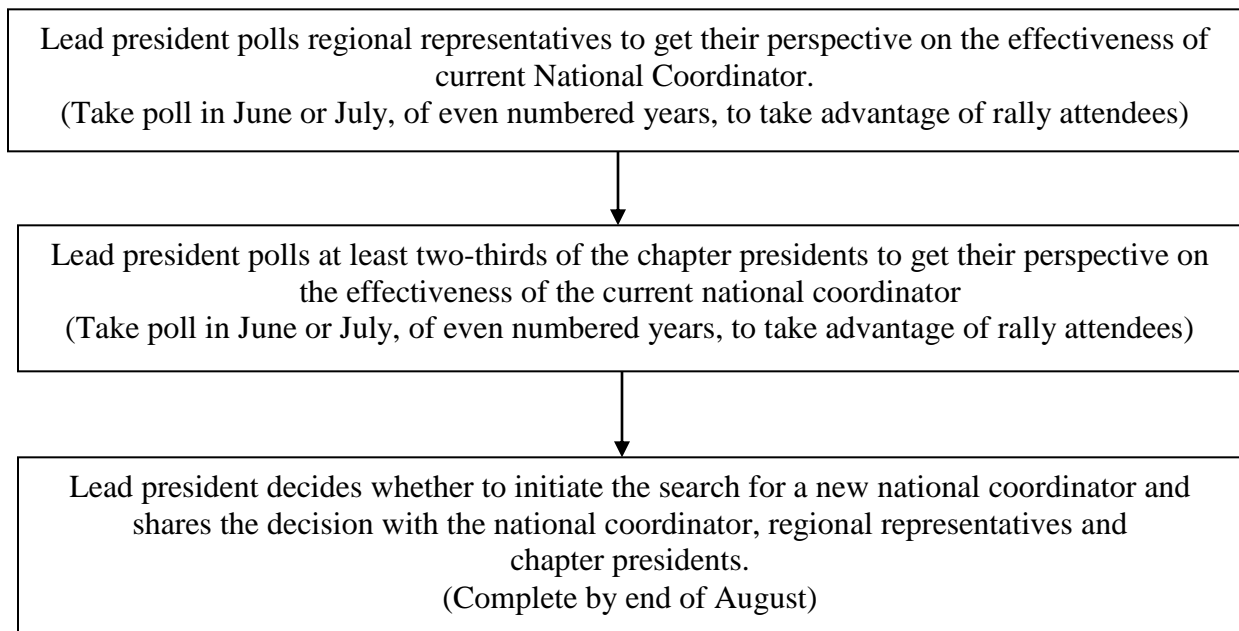


Charter COM  
members:  
Elinor Roberts  
&  
Corean Pick

### Attachment 3 – Selecting a National Coordinator

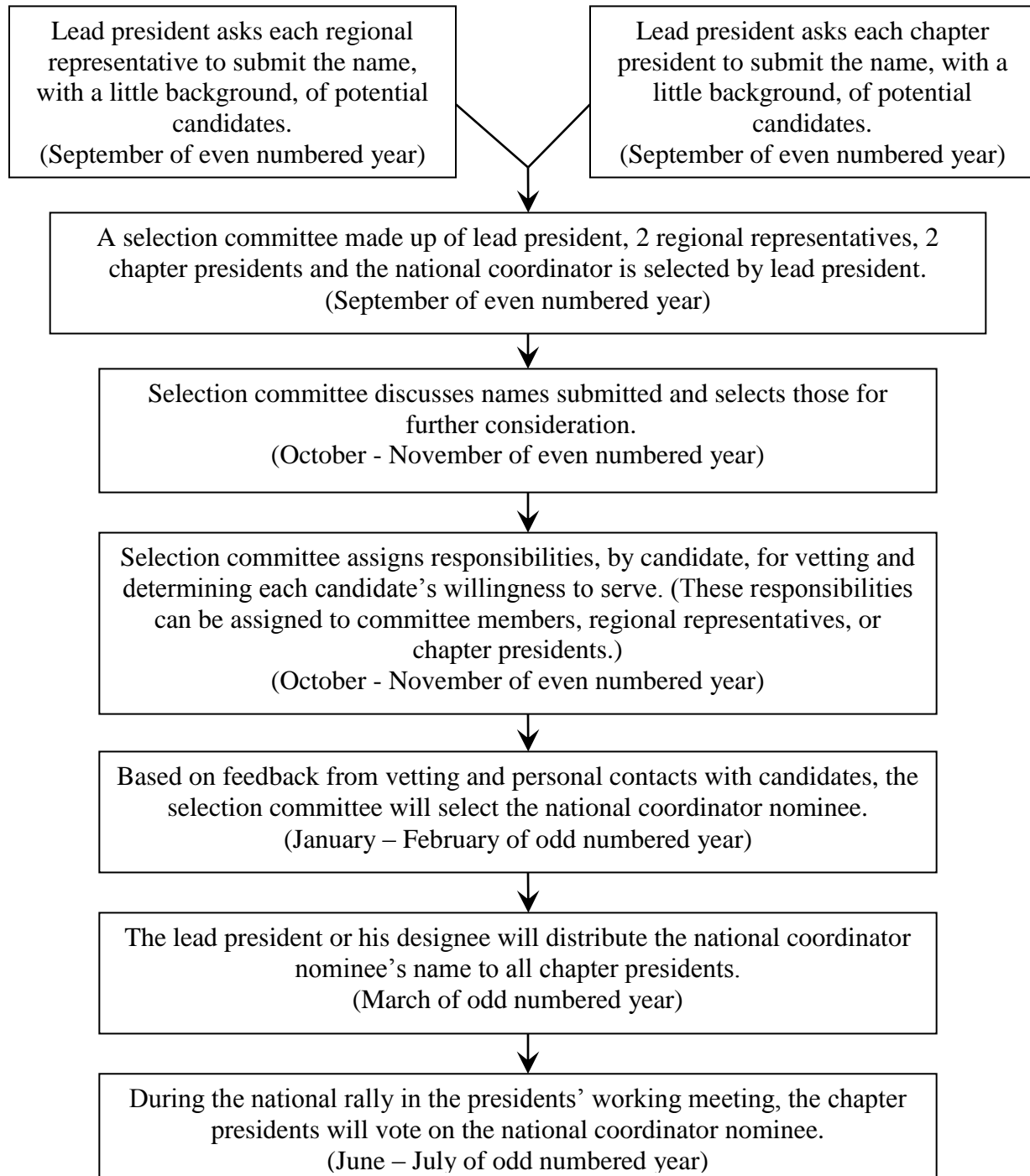
The national coordinator serves as a national facilitator who initiates and supports communication between the Campers on Mission regional and chapter representatives, the regional representatives and the NAMB staff, and supports/coordinates the efforts of the regional representatives. The bulk of the national coordinator's work lies in working with the regional representatives and helping with the national rallies. The regional representatives will do most of the heavy support work. The national coordinator will be their coach and encourager, helping them to understand and carry out their responsibilities, and ensuring effective communications are consistent organization wide. It is critical that the position be filled with a strong servant Christian with good communication and people skills, as well as a willingness to give the responsibilities of this position a higher priority than his personal mission efforts.

When an incumbent national coordinator no longer adequately fulfills the role, he should be replaced. Since issues such as health, family situations, and finances frequently control accomplishments more than personal desires, personnel changes in this position should not be considered a negative action against an incumbent. It should be considered a business decision to improve operational functioning. The lead president each even numbered year shall take a poll as follows:



If the decision is to select a new national coordinator, the following process should be used:

### **Process for selecting a National Coordinator**



Note: If for any reason the national coordinator nominee cannot accept or fulfill the role, the selection committee shall have an alternate candidate vetted and available for consideration during the presidents' working meeting.