

Ohio-West Virginia YMCA
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Cave Lake Center for Community Leadership
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Ohio-West Virginia YMCA

Waddell Endowment to Help Area Youth

The Ohio-West Virginia YMCA is pleased to announce that George M. Waddell (Greenfield, Ohio and Mt. Dora, Florida) has established the George M. Waddell Cave Lake Leadership Fund at the Columbus Foundation for the Ohio-West Virginia YMCA. "I believe in the HI-Y youth programs of the Ohio-West Virginia YMCA and especially want their new Cave Lake Center for Community Leadership near Latham, Ohio, to influence the lives of families, children and teens. This major new program and facility will have a local, state and national impact helping families raise responsible children as well as prepare new generations for responsible citizenship." said Waddell.

Mr. Waddell has directed that The Waddell Endowment be used to employ leadership staff at Cave Lake. The first result of this gift is the employment of Brad Barber as Cave Lake Program Director. Mr. Barber assumed his new responsibilities on August 16, 2006. A graduate of McClain High School in Greenfield and of Ohio University, Mr. Barber came to his new position from six years of service as Events Director for Ichthus Ministries, Inc., in Wilmore, Kentucky. He and his wife Angie now reside in Greenfield where she is a new member of the McClain High School faculty. Other Cave Lake staff are John King and Larry Molen. David King is Ohio-West Virginia YMCA Executive.

Senator Sarah Minear, President of the Ohio-West Virginia YMCA Board, commended Mr. Waddell for making "this significant investment in the future of our families, our young people and our communities." "Mr. Waddell's \$500,000 endowment is the first major gift in our efforts to increase our endowment to at least \$30,000,000 to support all our programs," said Minear. "In addition to endowment gifts, our youth programs exist because of annual gifts, small and large, from persons and organizations who believe in what we do and want to influence youth in positive ways. Our annual campaign goal is \$500,000. We also are in a major campaign to raise the \$20,000,000 required to build new Cave Lake facilities and additional funds to rebuild our Camp Horseshoe in West Virginia. We appreciate everyone's help to get us to this point and encourage everyone to follow Mr. Waddell's example with their support. Gifts of every amount are needed more than ever to help today's children and youth grow into responsible citizens," Minear said.

Doug White from Adams County and Bill Morgan from Columbus are recruiting volunteers to serve as a Cave Lake Development and Donor Relations Committee. Persons who can help them may contact the Cave Lake office.

The public is invited to a special October 21st afternoon from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Cave Lake to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Barber and to recognize Mr. Waddell. Tours of the property, lunch and a brief program led by Doug White, a member of the Ohio-West Virginia YMCA Board, will be offered. Please call Cave Lake at 937-588-3252 to reserve your place.

The Ohio-West Virginia YMCA's program roots extend back to 1867. Unique among YMCAs, this YMCA's programs are directed to youth, every community may participate, its focus is helping young people become responsible contributing members of their communities today and throughout their lives. Adults volunteer helping the youth programs of HI-Y, Youth in Government, Model United Nations, Camp Horseshoe in West Virginia and now Cave Lake in Ohio.

"I want my gift to motivate others to help as their circumstances allow," continued Mr. Waddell. "Gifts of every size for Cave Lake and for all these youth programs will allow them to succeed. I am especially pleased that family enrichment programming will be a feature of Cave Lake. We all know that in today's world our young people and families need good experiences more than ever. This YMCA's programs are time tested and proven programs that make differences for good. I ask everyone to do all they can to help these programs succeed in the lives of our families, children and teens. In addition to annual gifts, special gifts to endowment and to facility construction will truly touch the future through the hands of youth. Please join me," Waddell concluded.

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