



Happy & Hope. We Deliver.

Hello, Friends!

As the school year approaches, like everyone, we are wondering about the start of the school year. One thing we do know for sure, we miss our students. We know how the children respond to our songs and stories and feel they need the enrichment through arts as part of their life-long learning. Whether it is in-person visits, a video, Google school, outreach, or prayers, we can still reach our little friends and make a difference.

The Children's Enrichment Program has been planning and recording videos for our Facebook page and the upcoming 2020-21 school year. Each Artist is preparing for the full school year, with weekly agendas for their classrooms with themed stories and songs. We don't know what the new school year will bring, but we are ready for any decision made. Artists are packing their boxes with books, puppets, musical instruments, and supplies ... such as extra chargers and of course, hand sanitizer.

Over the past 15 years, I have carried "Little Bear" (a brown bear hand puppet) into the classroom. This year he will have a new bandana to wear, which can be used as his mask! I'll also have new "Little Bear" stories to share in person or on video! Let's remember – There is always Happy & Hope if you have Faith and Love!

Though nothing can take the place of face-to-face songs and stories, we have discovered that our different plans for outreach can continue to deliver "Happy & Hope" to all.



## JULY/AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER

# MILK & HONEY

## The Craddock Center Board of Directors Welcomes Our Newest Members



**Kirk Cameron** is retired from the McKesson Corporation and has lived in the Cherry Log area for the last 3 years. Kirk is passionate toward helping and serving others in each of the communities he has lived. He remains active in many non-profit organizations and volunteers in the theater arts community and works tirelessly for organizations such as The Craddock Center that provide support to children and families. Kirk is an active member of Cherry Log Christian Church and brings enthusiasm, creativity, and experience to his new role as member of The Craddock Center Board of Directors.

**Caroline Sisson Carder** is a nationally recognized home designer for the Sisson Company in Blue Ridge, GA. Caroline is known for her many acts of service and community involvement throughout the Fannin County area. She has served as a PTO President, Member of the Board of Fannin County Chamber of Commerce, President of Fannin County High School Baseball Dugout Club 2002-2005, and since 2005, serves on the Board for the non-profit, Georgia Mountains Hospice.



Caroline is active at Cherry Log Christian Church and has served in many leadership roles. Caroline loves the community surrounding The Craddock Center and is active in the lives of her children and grandchildren. All are residents of the community we serve.



**Mark Hellman** is Operations Manager and Director of Missions for Due West UMC in Marietta, GA. He is the son of Gordon and the late Louise Hellman, and his family has been instrumental in creating and supporting an active and committed volunteer team to The Craddock Center over the past decade. Mark visited The Craddock Center in January 2020 as Missions Chair at Due West UMC and was very eager to grow a volunteer program in support of the center's book distribution and children's library. Mark's continuing interest is in missions and an active children's

literacy program. He has a great desire to build a strong and lasting relationship with the center and support it in any area needed.

**Sue Hriljac** is a retired attorney who focused much of her work and practice on elder care and legal issues unique to our older populations. She is a relatively new resident of the North Georgia area having moved here a couple of years ago from Chicago. Sue is a ball of energy and ready to tackle any role she undertakes. Sue let me know early on how very enthusiastic she is about working with The Craddock Center and is especially interested in working with the young children we serve through our songs and stories. Active involvement and hands-on support of the Children's Enrichment Program is what Sue looks forward to the most.



We are so fortunate to have all these wonderfully committed individuals who are ready to "roll up their sleeves" and get involved in the work of The Craddock Center. Please join me in welcoming Kirk, Caroline, Mark, and Sue to The Craddock Center family.

### THE CRADDOCK CENTER MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to deliver educational and cultural programs to children, families, and communities, primarily in Southern Appalachia. We serve by sharing and spreading centuries old traditions of song and story





## A Taste of Milk & Honey

*(The two articles below were written by Dr. Craddock in the Milk & Honey Newsletter. The first is from April, 2009, and the second is from May 2012. In today's world, both have such an important message for us all. ~ Pam )*

**LET ME RECOMMEND** that you spend some time now and then remembering your childhood, from your earliest recollection through elementary school years. Retrieve from your memory how you dressed, what you ate, what you played and with whom, your room, your siblings, your parents, going to church, teachers you loved and why, teachers you feared and why, what made you happy, what made you sad, what you wanted to be when you grew up. You get the idea. Revisit specific persons, places, events.

DR. FRED B. CRADDOCK

Why do this? There may be some pain in it. Of course, there may be, but you will understand better why you are as you are. Better self-understanding makes possible better understanding of others, and with that more patience, more kindness, more gratitude. In fact, you may be more comfortable saying *Yes* to invitations to serve others, especially children who will someday remember you with fondness and gratitude.

At The Craddock Center we believe strongly that attention and encouragement from one adult outside the family make a major difference in the life of a child.

Remember?

*April, 2009*

**THE QUESTION WAS ASKED** by a TV reporter and directed to Carl Sandburg, poet, historian, biographer, storyteller. The question was, “Mr. Sandburg, what in your opinion is the ugliest word in the English language?” I was interested because I grew up with “ugly words.” My mother’s list of ugly words included taking God’s name in vain, cursing, swearing, and using profanity. These words were not to be spoken. Also not to be spoken were words not ugly but close enough to come under the ban: darn, heck, gosh, etc. Also not to be spoken were eleven words that sounded alike but in reality were different. For example, “But, Momma, I was saying dam, not damn.” This long list of ugly words came back to mind when the reporter asked, “What is the ugliest word?”

Through the years, as I have outgrown my mother’s list (at least, some of them), I have added to my own. For example, “ilk.” It is an old Scottish word meaning “like, or the same.” “The drug dealers and their ilk,” or “the tax collector and their ilk.” Ilk is ugly, real ugly.

But I silenced my mind; Mr. Sandburg was about to speak. I grew more anxious as he grew more deliberate. Finally: “The ugliest word in the English language is *exclusive*.” He said no more; he did not explain his choice or attempt to justify it. His face said it all — what could be uglier? I tossed my boyhood list— how childish! I tossed ilk and all its ilk— how useless! On a slip of paper I wrote “exclusive.” I dared not speak it lest my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth. As I sit here years later I can hardly say the word, it is so ugly. And when I think the word, I feel I should wash my mind out with soap.

*May, 2012*

### A Powerful Craddock Story to Ponder....

When I was growing up—I use that expression in a generous sense—on the farm in western Tennessee, our closest neighbor and good neighbor was a black family named Graves, John and Jeanetta Graves, just wonderful, wonderful people. She was the happiest person, the most loving person I knew. She laughed as though it came from her whole body, and she loved everybody—she had long arms and embraced everybody.

She became pregnant, had a son, and she was pleased to say to the world, “This is going to be a child of reconciliation,” because in rural west Tennessee in those days there was still some racial prejudice. There was still some Civil War talk. So she said, “My boy is going to be a child of reconciliation,” and she named him Lee Grant.

Think about it.

My mother said, “That was a mistake, Jeanetta. Nobody’s going to like him now.”

Jeanetta said, “Oh no, no, he’s going to be the end of all this hostility and hatred. He’s going to be the child of reconciliation.”

When he went to town once, he let me go along, and I have never witnessed one person suffering the verbal abuse that he suffered from people who didn’t know him. He was a very gracious, good man, but his name was Lee Grant. And Jeanetta, his mother, said to me, “I don’t think you ought to go to town with Lee Grant anymore — you might be hurt.”

I already was hurt....Strange.

