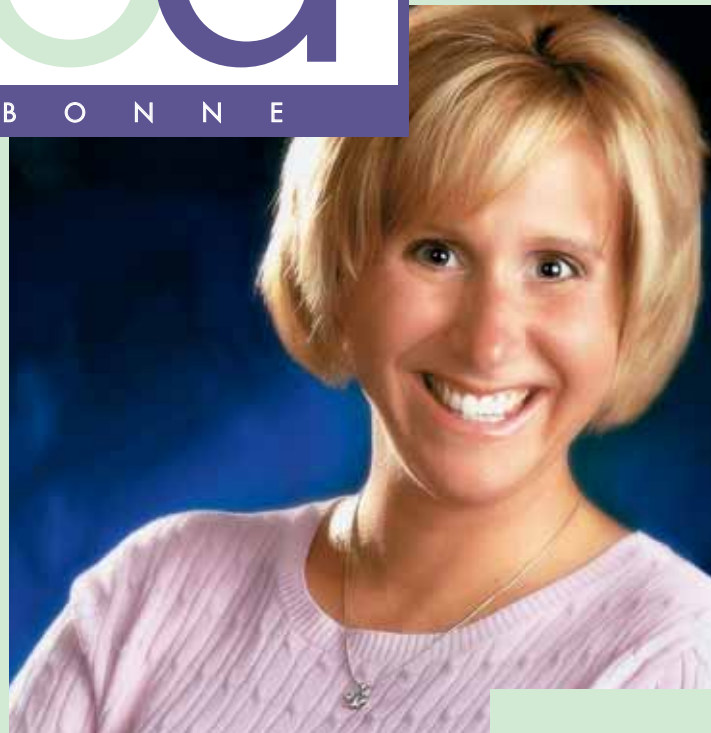


## THE HEART OF A LION

"I am an RVP on a Caribbean Cruise..." was my chant all through NTC 2002 Long Beach! I set a goal in Long Beach to be an RVP by September 2002. Then I came home and found that my awesome team had completed first step qualification! I have a million stories in my Arbonne vault of skin success and awesome health, weight loss, physical transformation and the potential for financial freedom. Now, in the wake of reaching this goal, looking back I see that this road has paved my heart and shaped my whole life. In the nine years since I joined Arbonne, my story is really about a journey of grace and mercy.

I was a single mom, living in my parent's home, working full time as a waitress. I knew I was destined for more. My mama had filled my soul with messages of faith and strength and had convinced me over the years that I was unique and talented and marvelous! Life happens and eventually the lies from the world seemed more real than those safe, encouraging messages of hope from my home. Still, they echoed.

One night after a long day on my feet, I came to my mom, and as I wept and wondered about my destiny, we began to pray. The next day, my mother came home from a women's luncheon (where an Arbonne Consultant was manning a small table!) with a piece of paper folded in half. She set it before me and as I read the words, "Why use Arbonne..." and perused the botanical ingredients, studied the number and name, while my mom handed me the phone.



**cathi almquist**

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Cathi Almquist Region; Parker, CO.

I was sitting in Cecilia Stoll's living room the next day. I remember feeling so nervous and wondering if she would "hire me" or not! After about twenty minutes, it dawned on me, she really wants me! For some reason, I just got it ... what an amazing opportunity this was! The ability to exercise my talents and gifts, with the potential to help others and earn a viable income ... it all seemed too good to be true. Arbonne made perfect sense to me. On May 19, 1993, I had an Arbonne Starter Kit in my hand; then, I decided I bet-

*continued ...*

Cathi with husband, Randy.



Cathi and her three children, Dylan, Madeline and Samantha.



Cathi out dining with Liz Hamilton, Renée Burton and Trish Knox.



## success strategy:

“ This opportunity grants us fulfillment we do not even know we long for. The trip here is worth it! ”

ter try the product. I did, and years of struggling with oily skin and terrible acne came to a glorious end!

I did not go to college, did not even finish high school, but the next three years in Oklahoma I call my time at “Arbonne University”! My “professors” included Cecilia Stoll, Cindy Pipkin, Joyce Owens, Martha McIntyre, Neta Irwin, President Rita Davenport and so many other amazing women. I had the great fortune and privilege of having Carol Bowdell and Lana Bell happen upon my business. Arbonne created experiences that shaped and changed and formed me in ways I never imagined possible. What began as a business venture became a lifestyle. Those messages buried in my soul surfaced and one night in Laguna Beach, on a rooftop overlooking the ocean, President Rita Davenport and Petter Mørck embraced my heart and the darkness lifted. I could hear my mama’s voice again, loud and clear. In that moment, Arbonne and my little girl promises came together in a melody of acceptance and of truth and beauty.

In the years that followed, Arbonne grew me in ways that were all at once marvelous and terrifying. I came to a place where the price of extraordinary success seemed too much, and I gave in to the lies that had clawed at me for years. In not minding what was going on between my ears, I was not taking responsibility for my choices. I was too busy wallowing and blaming and justifying my excuses for abandoning my dream.

Yet, the profound handprint of my Arbonne family was indelible. The pull of my parent’s love was incredible. The

Cecilia Stoll, Cathi, Cindy Pipkin and Barb Dishmon.



BACK ROW: Carolyn Snow, Cathi and President Rita Davenport.  
FRONT ROW: Gena Money, Rachel Sinclair and Donna Kopepash.

lessons resonated in me while glimpses of dignity and wisdom stayed with me. I knew I had to find my way back.

God preserved my business, even when I walked away. I am in awe every day by the beauty and strength and love and determination that surround me, woven in a rich and wonderful tapestry of women who bless me and teach me every day! I am so grateful as I witness the salvation of my dreams in the faces of my three beautiful children. I have to pinch myself each morning as I catch my husband gazing at me with such love and belief. This opportunity grants us fulfillment we do not even know we long for! The joy is indescribable and the trip here is worth it! My vision to be home with my children, my prayer to be a woman who is creative and confident, rich in mind, soul and spirit have been realized through this Arbonne vehicle! I find myself not only with a growing business and a mighty team, but I come to this place with the heart of a lion!

Thank you to my business builders here in Colorado: Liz Hamilton, Trish Knox, Renee Burton, Robin Chew, Barb Dishmon and to every beautiful person on my team; to the unconditional love of my upline and to the dynamic Carol Bowdell; and to Lana Bell and her awesome team, and to Carolyn Snow and her delightful group. And mostly, thank you to my husband, Randy, for his unshakable support. We get to celebrate our five-year wedding anniversary with a new Mercedes-Benz! Thank you, Arbonne!

Cathi with Kim Knapp, Lana Bell and Carolyn Snow.

