



Heart

a newsletter
of the Members
of Churches of Christ
for Scouting
Vol. 2, No. 1
Spring 2005



2005 NATIONAL JAMBOREE

Meeting Spiritual Needs
JULY 25 - AUGUST 3

MCCS Prepares to Send Chaplains to National Event



More than 40,000 Scouts and leaders will build a city in less than a day at the 2005 National Boy Scout Jamboree near Fredericksburg, Va., this summer.

A major component of this community, which will be the fifth largest city in Virginia during July 25 to August 3, will be the availability of chaplains to serve the spiritual needs of Scouts and leaders.

Every day is different; you don't know what is going to happen, said Ben Zickefoose, who has served as a chaplain at

the past three Jamborees. As a chaplain, you just have to be ready to deal with whatever comes by way of counseling and encouragement. I enjoy serving as chaplain and consider it an honor to be asked. Zickefoose serves as an Exercise Science instructor at Abilene Christian University and founder of Gymnastics to the Glory of God.

Support from generous friends of MCCS help to underwrite the cost of Jamboree needs, including worship service expenses, Bible distribution, preparation of handouts and providing a minimum of 10 chaplains.

Dr. John Conger, Professor and Chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences at Lipscomb University, served as a chaplain at the 2001 Jamboree and says the affiliation of religious groups such as MCCS with



Top: Scouts and leaders line up for the 2001 Jamboree's Opening Ceremony.

Directly Above: Dr. John Conger, second from the left, worked with chaplains from across the country in 2001.

Photos Courtesy of Dr. John Conger

Story Continued on Pages 4 and 5

A GREAT YEAR AWAITS



Kent Barnett
Executive Director

Thank you!

The support of faithful friends built so much momentum last year that 2005 is bound to be an exciting one.

MCCS has ended 2004 in the best financial shape as I can remember in years, thanks to friends, family and trustees.

It's been a rush of excitement receiving support from friends all over America, and I want to say welcome to the more than 150 new donors who supported this ministry in 2004. Praise God that more folks than ever are taking part in the ownership of MCCS!

Thanks for all you do to grow the MCCS ministry. You are making a difference for youth and families. I am reminded of this with every touching testimonial I hear of how the *Servant Leadership Award Series* or the Scouting experience has affected youth and their families.

The National Boy Scout Jamboree in 2005 is a perfect example of such an experience. I hope you read more about this exciting opportunity in this issue of the newsletter and respond with a gift.

We must continue striving in doing our best and what's right for youth and families in growing this ministry with God's guidance.

I believe that God is in control of this ministry and pray for the wisdom to go forward boldly to provide this service for youth so that many can be spiritually trained to serve His Kingdom.

Thank you again for your unfailing support of the boys and girls who count on this ministry.

Our Purpose:

Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting is an all-volunteer organization, recognized by the Boy Scouts of America and the Girl Scouts of the USA. It was founded:

To interpret Scouting to members of Churches of Christ.

To encourage the use of Scouting by members of Churches of Christ.

To promote spiritual growth by encouraging the use of the Servant Leadership Series.

The MCCS logo is the Heart of the Servant, which symbolizes the four spheres in the life of a servant leader:

To Service to God and His church.

To Service to one's own family.

To Service to the nation.

To Service to Scouting.



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Awards Totals

In 2004, 550 units chartered by Churches of Christ were registered with the Boy Scouts of America. A total of 14,477 boys participated in these units.

Please read what parents and leaders are saying about the *Servant Leadership Award Series* and take a look at Page 6 for MCCS news from around the world.



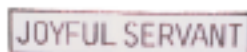
LOVING SERVANT

Grades 1-3

Total Awards = 108

Boys = 88

Girls = 20



JOYFUL SERVANT

Grades 4-6

Total Awards = 158

Boys = 127

Girls = 31



GOOD SERVANT

Grades 6-12

Total Awards = 36

Boys = 35

Girls = 1



FAITHFUL SERVANT

*Adults Registered
in Scouting as Leader
for at Least 10 Years*

Total Awards = 19

Men = 13

Women = 6



"Thank you and God bless your efforts with the MCCS ministry. My son has learned so much by completing this program, and now my daughter is working on the Joyful Servant program. I am also introducing the programs to the Bible classes at our church, the Northeast Church of Christ in Eastpoint, Mich."

Brian Hibbard • Sterling Heights, Mich.

"We look forward to receiving the (Loving Servant) award and to recognizing Calen's (Webelos Cub Scout) hard work. You might be interested to know that the program has led to Calen discovering a love for serving by working with the babies at church. He has decided he wants to work frequently with the 1-year-olds' class, and the teachers say he is a big help!"

Laura Swim • Garland, Texas



NATIONAL JAMBOREE



Left: More than 40,000 participants gathered for the Opening Ceremony of the 2001 National Boy Scout Jamboree.

Story Continued from Pages 4 and 5

Scouting makes the program vital to the spiritual growth of children today.

Chaplains provide an important link between the religious groups and the youth development programs, he said. For one thing, I think it strengthens the duty to God aspects of Scouting. Whenever that many people come together, something is going to happen that will call for spiritual guidance.

Fort A.P. Hill, near Fredericksburg and Bowling Green, Va., has served as the permanent site of the Jamboree since 1981.

The Jamboree city will include more than 17,000 tents, 3,500 patrol kitchens, telephone and transportation systems, first-aid stations, police and fire departments, post offices, trading posts and a daily newspaper.

Activities such as archery, biking, buckskin games, the confidence course, conservation programs, scuba diving, kayaking and rafting will allow participants to use their Scouting skills, learn about their national heritage, focus on their physical fitness, reflect on environmental conservation and remain true to the spirit of Scouting.

Participating Scouts are selected by councils across the United States and require the approval of their Scoutmaster and their local council Jamboree committee. To attend, Scouts must have completed the 6th grade or be at least 12 years old and a First Class Scout by July 1. Participants must not turn 18 before August 2, 2005.

For more information about supporting the MCCS Jamboree Chaplain Initiative, please send an e-mail message to Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting at mccs@acu.edu or call (325) 674-3739.



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global

from the ^ MCCS Community:

In each issue of *from the Heart*, we will reserve space for your photographs and stories about *Servant Leadership Award* ceremonies. Stories of other awards and inspiring projects should be shared, as well. For instance, if you know young people who recently earned their Eagle Scout or Gold Award, they deserve recognition in this newsletter! Please send your photos and information to Kent Barnett at MCCS • ACU Box 27938 • Abilene, TX 79699-7938.



Left: Heidelberg, Germany

Allen King receives his *Loving Servant Award* from Col. Fred Carter of the U.S. Army. Allen participates in Cub Scout Pack #20 at Patrick Henry Village American Military Base in Heidelberg. He and his parents, Rick and Molly, attend Heidelberg Church of Christ, founded during World War II by a missionary from Tennessee.



Above: Oklahoma City, Okla.

During February, the 95th anniversary month of the Boy Scouts of America, the Baden-Powell District recognized the congregation of Mayfair Church of Christ for 16 years of service. The church building has been used for roundtable meetings, Eagle board of reviews, den meetings and annual Blue & Gold banquets by area Cub Scout Packs. Shown above from left to right: Warren Higginbotham, Assistant District Commissioner; Seth McDowell, Mayfair Family and Involvement Minister; and Gayle Reams, Mayfair elder and former MCCS trustee.

CONGRATULATIONS!

EAGLE SCOUTS

Bradley Bormuth, Morganton, N.C.
Matthew B. Griekspoor, Wichita, Kan.
Bradley Magers, Cleburne, Texas

GOLD AWARD RECIPIENT

Jennifer Elswood, San Antonio, Texas



MEMORIAL & HONOR GIFTS

Friends who send gifts in memory or honor of loved ones have made a significant impact on the lives of the children who participate in M CCS. Through the Servant Leadership Series of religious emblem awards, these children learn about serving Christ and helping others. Memorial and honor gifts made by faithful supporters provide an excellent example of the servant's way of life. All donations received go to encourage boys and girls in pursuing the development of servant leadership style of life modeled by Jesus Christ.

In Memory Of...

BETTY AULT, WOODSFIELD, OHIO
R.D. "Bob" Ault, Woodsfield, Ohio

In Honor Of...

CHARLES H. "CHARLIE" MARLER, ABILENE, TEXAS
Brent Magers, Cleburne, Texas
WILLIAM H. "BILLY" WALKER, SR., FRANKLIN, TENN.
Marybeth Duke Bryd, Franklin, Tenn.
ED AND GEORGIA MATHEWS, ABILENE, TEXAS
Bruce and Jennie Bailey, Albany, Texas

If you would like to make a gift in memory or honor of a loved one, please fill out the form below.

Upon receipt of the gift, M CCS will send notification to the honoree or his or her family. Please contact M CCS with any corrections.

Honor or Memorial Gift to M CCS

DONOR INFORMATION:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number (w/ Area Code) _____

E-mail Address _____

Church Home _____

IN HONOR/MEMORY (CIRCLE ONE) OF: _____

Gift Amount _____

Please Send Notification of Gift to: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make checks payable to Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting. M CCS is an IRS 501(c)(3) institution for tax deductible purposes.
Please clip and return to M CCS • ACU Box 27938 • Abilene, TX 79699-7938.





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Al Bingham of Alpharetta, Ga., has accepted the responsibilities of Chairman of the MCCS board of Trustees.

"This is an exciting time for our organization; I am pleased to be a part of this dynamic and growing ministry," Al said. "I am humbled by and appreciative of the Board's asking me to serve."

Al was born in Decatur, Ala., where he participated in Scouting, earning his Arrow of Light award and later becoming an Eagle Scout in 1970.

"Scouting played an important

TRUSTEE PROFILE: *AL BINGHAM, CHAIRMAN*

role in my life as a youth, and I have felt a great desire to give back to Scouting and sharing the experience with others," he said. "Nationally, outside the Church, I know of few if any organizations that can be so effective in building character in our youth."

As an adult, he has served as an advisor and leader in several capacities, including Explorers, Cub Scouts, Jamboree Staff and Philmont Training Courses. He received the MCCS Faithful Servant Award in 2004.

Today, in addition to his commitment to MCCS, Al serves on the Sweetwater District Committee, the Council Religious Relations Committee, Council Webelos Leader Outdoor Training and as director of Alcovy Old Timers.

Al and his wife, Becky, worship at North Atlanta Church of Christ, where he serves as deacon.

At North Atlanta Church of

Christ, Al serves as co-leader of His Kids, a drama group for children. He also teaches the Joyful Servant Class, among many other activities.

The Bingham family have one son, David, a Life Scout who attends Northview High School.

Al earned his bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Vanderbilt University and received his master's degree from the University of Michigan.

Al and the rest of the board members offer a warm welcome to new trustees Mrs. Marsha Forrester of McEwen, Tenn.; Mr. Steve Leddy of Cookeville, Tenn.; and Mr. Nathan Williams of San Antonio, Texas.

Longtime trustees Mr. Bob Ault of Woodsfield, Ohio; Mr. Robert C. Brannon of Nashville, Tenn.; Col. Glen Johnson of Abilene, Texas; and Dr. Charlie Marler of Abilene, Texas; have agreed to serve on the MCCS Advisory Board.

