

MCCS

MEMBERS OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST FOR SCOUTING

401 Cypress Street, Suite 406

Abilene, Texas 79601

325.370.1679

www.goodservant.org

info@goodservant.org

FALL 2011

CONFERENCE PROVIDES MOUNTAINTOP EXPERIENCE



Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting completed its ninth Scouting in the Church of Christ Conference this summer at the Philmont Training Center. Nestled in the Sangre de Cristo Rocky Mountains near Cimarron, New Mexico, Philmont Scout Ranch provided the backdrop for an action-packed week for all attendees. Twenty-four Church of Christ Scouting families came from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Oregon, Tennessee, and Texas, increasing the Philmont population by 52 for the week.

The Conference delivered a wide variety of topics for participants while offering opportunities for Scouters from all over the country to share stories and ideas. Participants received an overview of the origin and history of MCCS, with special commendations by one of the founding trustees, Ralph Wallace (Parrish, AL). Current Board President, Steve Leddy (Cookville, TN) presented the MCCS curriculum and promotional efforts. The use of the MCCS curriculum in the Girl Scouts of the USA was described by participants, Terresa Tate (Arlington, TX), Jackie Ritchey (Houston, TX), Celeste Scarborough (Austin, TX), and Rhonda Dillingham (Princeton, TX). Connie Thomas (Louisville, KY) and Patti Garibay (Cincinnati, OH), American Heritage Girl's National Executive Director and Founder, explained the AHG's program and answered questions posed by participants. Everyone agreed that the use of the MCCS curriculum by the young ladies in these organizations is thrilling!

Steve Leddy presented the novel and innovative concept being used by several Church-based universities who are now promoting university scouting programs and scholarships. Participants were briefed about MCCS's presence at the BSA National Jamboree by Houston Costello (Picayune, MS), Al Bingham (Alpharetta, GA), Nathan Williams (Abilene, TX), and

Kent Barnett (Abilene, TX). Two MCCS members, Dan Tullos (Searcy, AR) and Chris Peurifoy (Longview, TX) who attended the Jamboree as a staff member and a scout leader, shared observations they made about the MCCS presence at the Jamboree.

Conference participants and families met for breakfast at the dining hall prior to the opening session each morning. No better way to start the day than over a cup of coffee with fellow Christian Scouters! The dining hall again served as a gathering place for lunch and fellowship. Attendees were later treated to snacks in the afternoons, which included watermelon and cantaloupe, root beer floats, and a popcorn buffet!

Conference classes were conducted Monday through Friday, with the exception of Wednesday which is designated a free day for attendees to relax or travel. Participants reported visiting museums both at Philmont and in Cimarron, traveling to nearby mountain towns, horseback riding, hiking, and checking out an inactive volcano.

We ended the week with a wonderfully tired feeling! Lifelong friendships had been established. Scouting connections were made. And, the MCCS mission was shared with 24 dedicated, Christian Scouters who will take what they learned and encourage the proliferation of Scouting in Churches of Christ! ☸

AWARD RECIPIENTS

Bill and Susan Yell, of Huntsville, AL, receive their Faithful Servant Awards. The presenter was Tim Wallace.



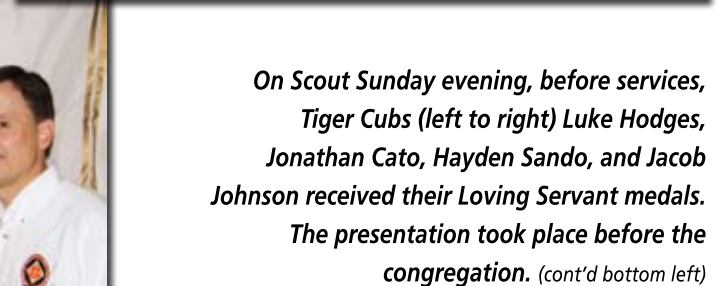
Elly Hargan, an American Heritage Girl Tenderheart from Louisville, KY, was presented with her Loving Servant Award.



Longtime Scoutmaster Mark Sharp of San Antonio, TX (center) is presented the adult Faithful Servant Award by James Swisher (left) and National Executive Director Kent Barnett (right).



The Eagle Scout is Blake Willeford (left). The presentation was during Blake's Eagle Court of Honor ceremony.



Steve and Marsha Forrester of McEwen, TN, receive their Faithful Servant Awards, presented by Regina Harrison and Kent Barnett.



On Scout Sunday evening, before services, Tiger Cubs (left to right) Luke Hodges, Jonathan Cato, Hayden Sando, and Jacob Johnson received their Loving Servant medals. The presentation took place before the congregation. (cont'd bottom left)



(cont'd) As a side note, to thank the Slicer Church of Christ of Kennett, MO, for their support, the boys did a service project in April. They re-stripped the concrete curb and steps in front of the church so that they are easier to see in the evening.

New Award Developed for Older Youth

For youths in grades 9-12, and Venturers ages 14-20, MCCS has introduced a new religious award: Giving Servant.

For several years, trustees who are active in Venturing had a desire to provide an award curriculum for older youth. The Giving Servant sections are on serving God, serving others, and developing self. Special emphasis is given to the plan of salvation and to understanding the relationship between God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Interpretation of scripture is incorporated to encourage in depth Bible Study. Completion of a

service project adds a special element to the program.



MCCS Trustee Greg Tidwell, one of the curriculum developers and minister of the Fishinger and Kenny Church of Christ in Columbus, OH guided 10 Venturers through the curriculum and completed it in July.

All youth in the older grades are encouraged to earn this new award, even those who have already earned the Good Servant Award. Go to the MCCS website www.goodservant.org to order this and any of the MCCS curricula. 📄



Pictured with MCCS Board Members Greg Tidwell and Al Bingham are six of the Venturers who earned their Giving Servant award. Almost all of the members of Venturing Crew 316 earned this religious emblem offered by MCCS. Crew 316 is chartered by the Church of Christ at Fishinger and Kenny Roads in Columbus, Ohio. Members of the crew are very active in a wide range of service projects, especially doing conservation work at Fort Hill Christian Youth Camp. Al Bingham, a member of MCCS board presented the awards at a ceremony following the congregation's evening worship. Board member Greg Tidwell serves as advisor to Crew 316.

A Baptism Testimonial...

My wife Kim and I wanted to write to thank the MCCS Ministry for your excellent Servant Leadership programs. Our son Noah completed the Joyful Servant Award several months ago. We believe that Joyful Servant was instrumental in helping Noah make the decision to commit his life to Christ in baptism.

Noah has been continuously involved in Scouting since entering the second grade. Like all Scouts, he has been exposed to the powerful values of Scouting as he has progressed through the ranks. Noah attends the David Lipscomb Campus School in Nashville, TN.

Faithful Christians from the school and the church have spent hours with him, teaching him about God's Word and God's plan for his salvation. Still, it was Noah's journey through the Joyful Servant curriculum that seemed to crystallize all that he had learned before. The structure of the program, with its very deliberate focus on linking study with service, just made sense to him. His counselor, Granny White Church of Christ Youth Minister Scout Tillman, gently guided Noah through the program, praising his progress, while emphasizing the seriousness of every stage.

Cole and Kim Carter (Nashville, TN)



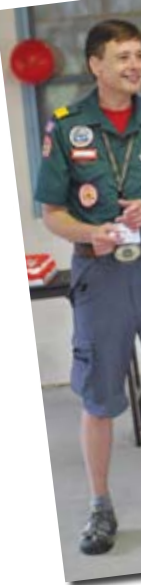
Joyful Servant, Noah Carter

PHILMONT

Snapshots



MCCS 25th



h Anniversary Party

Philmont • July 14, 2011 -



PHILMONT REFLECTION

by Connie Simpkins Thomas, AHG Troop Coordinator Troop KY #0454
Watterson Trail Church of Christ, Louisville, KY



As we approached Cimarron, New Mexico, a small village on the legendary Santa Fe Trail, we watched intently as two dust devils twisted and swirled, shooting dust high into the air. Although this rural community is well-known for the St. James Hotel, where the notorious Clay Allison, Black Jack Ketchum, Jesse James and Buffalo Bill Cody left their mark, it is also famous for the renowned Philmont Scout Ranch and Training Center, operated by the Boy Scouts of America. As we entered this extensive “high-adventure base”, the camp suddenly unfolded magnificently before us. Row after row of neatly canvassed tents stretched uniformly from east to west as the surrounding Sangre de Cristo mountains rose majestically above the plains.

As a troop coordinator and representative for the American Heritage Girls, I was invited by MCCS’ National Chairman, Steve Leddy and encouraged by National Executive Director, Kent Barnett, to participate in the conferences at the Philmont Training Center, in early July. Scout leaders and their families had come from across the nation to discuss the advancement and promotion of scouting and the Servant Leadership programs within the churches of Christ. The American Heritage Girls, a faith based character development and outreach program, which incorporates Christian values and encourages family involvement, is fairly new to the scouting community and the church. My objective was to not only introduce the program to the members but also to reassure MCCS that its purpose went hand in hand with BSA, the Servant Leadership program, and other programs such as Lads to Leaders. Although AHG’s mission statement is to “Build women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country”, it also recognizes that the overall mission as part of God’s family is the Great Commission.

Meeting and introducing AHG’s National Executive Director and Founder, Patti Garibay from Cincinnati, Ohio, was a thrill within itself. Patti, one of the original founders, passionately answered many questions and explained the program to the MCCS members. Since July 12, 2009, AHG made history by being the only - all girls organization, to sign a Memo-random of Mutual Support with the Boy Scouts of America. AHG has troops

within 41 different states and several countries and we’re still growing. What better way is there for churches to reach out to the youth and families within their communities than through BSA, MCCS, and AHG?

As a first time visitor and first time camper, I was immediately aware of the fellowship and friendliness among all campers and leaders represented. A mutual respect and concern toward all was demonstrated over and over again. Many occasions, I stepped outside my tent to find people studying their Bibles, marveling at God’s sunsets, and rising early to hike to Lover’s Leap to watch the sun rise. Boys Scouts across the country arrived daily, having prepared themselves for one of the greatest experiences and adventures of a lifetime.

My husband became part of the Silverados. This group was made up of the spouses that didn’t attend the conferences. Their day consisted of day trips to museums, hiking, horseback riding, whitewater rafting, crafts, and fishing. What a positive experience and a chance to become acquainted with those like minded. To say the least, my husband is looking forward to a return visit.

A light breeze always seemed to blow throughout the camp. The nights turned quickly cooler as the sun went down and heated rapidly up as the sun rose. Nights were spent together with the families socializing, participating in scheduled entertainment or taking a short hike to the trading post for ice cream.

please see PHILMONT REFLECTION cont’d on pg. 7

Trustee Named Editor of Gospel Advocate

Greg Tidwell, MCCS Trustee, has been named editor of Gospel Advocate magazine by Publisher Neil W. Anderson. Assuming the helm with the October issue, Tidwell will be the 17th editor of the 156 year old magazine. His writing will not, however, be new to Gospel Advocate readers as he has authored the monthly column "Perspective" since 1995. Tidwell has served as minister of the Church of Christ at Fishinger and Kenny in Columbus, Ohio for over 27 years. He is married to Peggy and they have twin sons, David and Jordan who are seniors in High School. 🍷

PHILMONT REFLECTION *cont'd from pg. 6*

Wildlife seemed abundant in Philmont. Antelope could be seen grazing with the cattle, deer wandered across the grass lawns leisurely, buffalo and elk herds were prevalent, burros rested in the fenced areas at the Kit Carson Museum, and black bears rambled into Cimarron, nightly, to investigate the city dumpsters.

The staff was made up of energetic young people, willing to help, willing to serve, and willing to make your experience a good one. Each opening and closing ceremony consisted of a medley of western and home spun songs accompanied by a guitar. From "This Land is Your Land" to the "Philmont Scout Song", voices sang out in unison. As we sang, "Home on the Range", my thoughts immediately raced to the lyrics, "Oh give me a home where the buffalo roam and the deer and the antelope play". That song must have been written about Philmont, for "seldom was heard a discouraging word" and I can say for certain that, "the skies were not cloudy all day." Have you been to Philmont? 🍷

MEMORIAL GIFTS

■ **DON JOUVENAZ**, given by **Harold Doddington - Gainesville, FL**

Please consider giving an end of the year gift



As you know, MCCS encourages boys and girls to grow spiritually through the use of the servant Leadership Religious Awards. Please be a part of this powerful ministry by mailing in the coupon below with your donation to support the MCCS mission. Donations are also accepted online at the MCCS web site, www.goodservant.org, under the "About Us" link.

And if you would like to make a gift in memory or honor of a loved one, please check the applicable box and include the name and address of the person(s) you would like MCCS to notify about the gift. MCCS is an IRS 501(c)(3) institution. All gifts are tax-deductible as provided by law.

Please accept my gift of \$_____ to help Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting to continue serving boys and girls.

DONOR INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (w/ area code) _____

E-mail Address _____

Church Home _____

☐ PLEASE CONSIDER MY GIFT A MEMORIAL / HONOR GIFT

In ☐ Honor ☐ Memory of: _____

Please send Notification of Gift to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Motivation for Scouts to Earn Their Top Scouting Rank

We are excited to promote our Church of Christ affiliated Universities/Colleges who offer Scouting scholarships/awards. Each of these sister schools is realizing the benefit of attracting Scouts who have learned to "persist until they succeed." Statistics are showing these scouts stick with what they start and excel in their college careers. To be eligible for these scholarships/awards, your Scout must qualify for admission to the school and have attained the rank of:

- ❖ Boy Scouts of America (BSA) - Eagle Scout
- ❖ Venturing (Coed program part of BSA) – Silver Award
- ❖ Sea Scouts (Coed program part of BSA) - Quartermaster Award
- ❖ Girls Scouts of the USA - Gold Award
- ❖ American Heritage Girls - Stars and Stripes Award

Information about those Universities/Colleges currently offering scholarships/awards is as follows:

Abilene Christian University - "Venturing and Scouting Scholarships" –

- Initiated fall of 2009
- Apply as incoming freshman
- \$1,000 to \$3,000 per year up to 4 years
- Maintain 3.0 grade point average (GPA)
- Be an active member of the ACU Venturing Crew
- ACU currently has over 100 students on Scouting scholarships

Contact Tamara Long, Director of Enrollment Services, email tn-b99a@acu.edu or phone toll free 1-800-460-6228.

Faulkner University - "Scouting Leadership Award"

- Initiated in 2012
- Applications now being accepted
- Awarded to new freshman & new transfers
- \$1,000 to \$3,000 per year

- Used for general tuition or fees in traditional program
- Maintain 3.0 GPA

Contact Chad Brown, Admissions Counselor at cbrown@faulkner.edu, call Admissions at 334-386-7200, by internet at myfaulkner.org or www.faulkner.edu

Lipscomb University - "Scouting Awards at Lipscomb University"

- Beginning 2012
- Applications now being accepted
- Apply as incoming freshman
- \$2,500 per year with funds applied to room & board charges; available for up to a maximum of 8 semesters
- Maintain 3.0 (GPA)
- Must live on campus

Contact Rick Holaway, Sr. Director of Admissions at rick.holaway@lipscomb.edu or call Office of Admissions phone 615-966-1776. Online at <http://admissions.lipscomb.edu/financialaid/scholarships/>

York College - "Taylor Leadership Scholarships"

- Each recommendation letter produced (for scouting & other leadership areas) will equal an award up to \$250 per year up to \$1,000 as long as the student meets FAFSA priority deadline.

Contact Willie Sanchez, Director of Admissions, email willie.sanchez@york.edu or phone 402-363-5620. Online at http://www.york.edu/admissions/aid_scholarships.asp.

If you love Scouting, and one or more of these Christian schools is near to your heart, consider a monetary gift to these initiatives because each is seeking funding to expand Scouting scholarships. At MCCS we are hopeful that more of our universities/colleges will offer Scouting scholarships in the near future. MCCS is available to assist these schools. ☪



MEMBERS OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST FOR SCOUTING

401 Cypress St., Suite 406 • Abilene, Texas 79601 • 325.370.1679
info@goodservant.org • www.goodservant.org

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 10
79604