



# MCCS NEWS

MEMBERS OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST FOR SCOUTING

## AHG CONFERENCE ATTENDEES LEARN ABOUT MCCS



MCCS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KENT BARNETT WITH AHG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PATTI GARIBAY AT THE AHG NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN JUNE

The last week of June, Kent Barnett participated in the American Heritage Girls (AHG) National Leadership Conference held at Centreville, VA near Washington D.C. Kent manned the MCCS exhibit and networked with AHG leaders from around the country. His wife, Denise, visited with attendees at the booth when Kent was involved in sessions. Over 400 AHG leaders attended the four day event.

Kent was able to meet Church of Christ troop leaders that he had been in contact with in person allowing both to put a face with a name. Kent presented information about the Servant Leadership program during three of the breakout sessions. During these sessions, as well as during conversation at the booth, Kent encouraged leaders who were not members of the Church of Christ to have their troop girls earn the MCCS religious awards in addition to earning the other Protestant awards. Many were not aware that this was possible and were appreciative of the advice. Curricula were emailed to all those who signed up at the exhibit. "I'm looking forward to hearing that many youth have completed the curriculum as a result of these contacts," said Kent.

In addition to Kent, Connie Thomas, MCCS trustee and officer from the Louisville, KY, area and her husband Keith, attended the conference. Connie serves as a Troop Coordinator for an AHG troop chartered by the Watterson Trail Church of Christ in Louisville, and Keith is the troop's treasurer. Kent and his wife, Denise, enjoyed learning more

about American Heritage Girls while dining several times with the Thomases. Kent considered the trip a huge success as old friendships were rekindled, new friendships made, and more people were made aware of the MCCS curriculum and its benefits. A highlight of the trip was being able to visit with dear friend Patti Garibay, Founder and Executive Director of AHG.

## MCCS REPRESENTED DURING TRAIL LIFE USA TRAINING

MCCS was invited to participate in training sessions for the newly established Trail Life USA. Kent Barnett manned the MCCS exhibit at Trail Leader Training (TLT) in Waco, TX, in August and in Olathe, KS, near Kansas City during a September TLT Training. Over 350 Trail Leaders attended the Waco regional event and 115 participated in the Olathe conference. The Waco TLT drew the largest attendance over the eight TLTs held between April and September across the country.

During the TLT sessions, Barnett shared information about

the MCCS Servant Leadership curricula with Trail leaders and how the series could be implemented in their programs. He stressed that the scriptural basis for the MCCS curricula complements the 15 core values and Christian foundations on which Trail Life was established.

MCCS is excited to have a presence in Trail Life USA and is grateful to exhibit at TLT trainings. It is hoped that MCCS and TLUSA will establish a longtime relationship which will allow many youth to further develop spiritually while participating in the Servant Leadership series.



2014 is rapidly coming to an end! It has been a busy year and the time since our last newsletter has been no exception. In the newsletter, you will read about the events I have attended to share the MCCS mission. While meeting and greeting at these events, I have been encouraged as families have shared their own stories about completing one of the Servant Leadership series with their children. **I am always excited when I share the MCCS mission with those who may not have heard about the program.**

*a note from Kent*

In today's world, many parents are hungry to find ways to help young people grow spiritually and feel that the MCCS series provides both challenge and reward for their children. As more young people participate in the program, we feel that we are fulfilling our mission and goal to provide our Servant Leadership Bible study curricula to all youth involved in Boy Scouts, American Heritage Girls, Trail Life USA, Girl Scouts, and to those churches who wish to use the program in their Bible classes. We are here for the youth!

**I am asking for your financial help during November and December.** This is historically the period when many folks increase their charitable giving and we hope you will consider the MCCS ministry a worthy recipient. We are counting on you to continue with your end of year gift, or to start a new tradition of annual giving to MCCS. If you have given before, but it has been a couple of years, I hope you'll consider renewing your giving.

**MISSION POSSIBLE!**

**How does your gift help?** It allows us to send the curricula to youth without a mandatory fee. We are also able to subsidize the cost of the medals, patches, and pins allowing more youth to order and to proudly display a medal on their uniforms. In addition, we are able to have a physical presence at events sponsored by the different youth organizations where we make even more people aware of the MCCS Servant Leadership Award curricula.

To the parents of children who have been impacted spiritually by the MCCS program, **please consider helping other young people by giving.** As one father shared with me the joy of hearing his young son eagerly reminding him when it was time to read the Bible, you too have surely experienced similar times while working with your own child in the program. **Please help us make this program available to more youth.**

Donations can be mailed to the address listed on the newsletter coupon below. Make checks payable to MCCS. If you'd rather give online, you can do so by going to [www.goodservant.org](http://www.goodservant.org) under the About Us tab. Or, save us the 2% fee and donate through your personal online bill pay plan. And remember, MCCS is a 501(c)(3) so your gift will be tax deductible. **If you are over age 70, please consider using some of your required minimum distribution (RMD) from your IRA to donate to MCCS.**

In service to youth,

*Kent*

Kent Barnett  
MCCS National Executive Director

## SUPPORT MCCS'S MINISTRIES THROUGH YOUR PRAYERS AND DONATIONS!

MCCS encourages youth to grow spiritually through the use of our Servant Leadership Series Religious Awards. We also actively work to promote all types of scouting as valuable ministries that congregations can utilize to bring youth to Christ and to reach out to unchurched youth in their communities. Your donations and prayerful support allow this ministry to thrive. Please use the coupon below or donate online through the "About Us" link at [www.goodservant.org](http://www.goodservant.org). MCCS is an IRS 501(c)(3) institution. All gifts are deductible as provided by law.

Please accept my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting to continue to serve youth.

### DONOR INFORMATION

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# MCCS TRUSTEES MEET IN ARLINGTON, TEXAS

by J. Houston Costolo  
MCCS National Chairman

**D**uring the weekend of October 11-12, nine Trustees and the Executive Director, Kent Barnett, met to review the mission of MCCS and to develop a plan of action for moving forward with the recommendations.

The strategic planning session was held at the Pleasant Ridge Church of Christ, located in Arlington, Texas. The event was hosted by Trustee Roger Tate and Pleasant Ridge Elder, Dr. Mike Walker. Board Chairman Houston Costolo set the tone for the weekend with an opening address and then conducted a brain-storming session compiling each individual's perception of what the mission of MCCS is or should be.

The meeting was then turned over to Dr. Mike Walker who acted as the facilitator. As well as serving as an Elder, Dr. Walker is a Trustee for Oklahoma Christian University, and owner of Pain Recovery, LLC in Arlington. He discussed some aspects of the strategic planning that has taken place at OCU and addressed the issues that have moved to the forefront in maintaining a Christian university in an increasingly secular and ungodly world.

After completing a MCCS SWOT analysis (Strengths-Weaknesses-Opportunities-Threat); the items in each of the four areas were prioritized. On Saturday afternoon, the group spent time discussing several areas of concern for the future of MCCS.

On Sunday afternoon, Dr. Walker helped us define short and longer range goals that would secure the future of MCCS. The findings will be summarized in our next newsletter and the recommendations will be voted upon at our next annual trustees meeting in February 2015.

I would like to thank Roger Tate and Mike Walker for the warm hospitality of the Pleasant Ridge Church of Christ. Also, I would like to thank the following trustees who were able to attend this important planning session: Roger Tate, Nathan Williams, John McCollum, Duvan Brock, Chris Pourifoy, Carl Amend, Steve Leddy, and Dan Tullos.

It is my hope that this meeting and other events like it will help MCCS to better be prepared to face challenges while trying to reach young people and their families with our curricula. We pray that they may develop attitudes of Christ-like servant leadership which will impact our nation and world for many years to come. If you have questions about how you might use the Servant Leadership curriculum in your home congregation or with a scout unit or if you have suggestions as to how MCCS might market itself better, please email me at [chair@goodservant.org](mailto:chair@goodservant.org).

May God bless all of us in our efforts to bring the love of Jesus Christ to a dying world.

## CHAIRMAN ADDRESSES BSA RELIGIOUS RELATIONSHIPS TASK FORCE

**H**ouston Costolo addressed the Religious Relationships Task Force of the Boy Scouts of America at its Fall Meeting in Dallas, Texas. Costolo presented a proposal to require that a Scout must earn one of his faith group's Religious Emblems to show that he has satisfactorily demonstrated "Duty to God" before he can apply for the Eagle Scout Award. The proposal if adopted, would take several years to make it through the various committees on changes to advancement requirements.

Costolo stated, "The Boy Scouts of America has always endorsed that a scout should strive to do his 'Duty to God and country.' That has never changed. Recently, the Cub Scout and the Venturing programs have re-emphasized Duty to God. The Boy Scout program now requires a Scoutmaster to certify that a scout has shown that he has satisfactorily performed his 'Duty to God.' My proposal is for each young person to demonstrate that he has done his 'Duty to God' by earning his faith's religious emblem before he could apply for the Eagle Scout Award."



MCCS CHAIRMAN HOUSTON COSTOLO (R) ADDRESSES THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA RELIGIOUS RELATIONSHIPS TASK FORCE PROPOSING THAT THE BSA RE-AFFIRM ITS COMMITMENT TO 'DUTY TO GOD' BY MODIFYING THE REQUIREMENTS TO EARN THE EAGLE SCOUT AWARD. R. CHIP TURNER (L), BSA RELIGIOUS RELATIONSHIPS TASK FORCE CHAIRMAN, LOOKS ON.



# MCCS AWARD RECIPIENTS



WEBELO TREORI DAVIS OF ATLANTA, GA, (PICTURED AT HIS ARROW OF LIGHT CEREMONY) WAS PRESENTED HIS JOYFUL SERVANT.



TRAIL LIFE USA TRAILMAN ETHAN HUNT OF MCKINNEY, TX, EARNED THE LOVING SERVANT.



CUB SCOUT ADAM WOLFF OF GREENWOOD, IN, EARNED THE LOVING SERVANT.



AHG SISTERS MAKENZIE (L) AND MAYA (R) DICKSON OF NASHPORT, OH, EARNED SERVANT LEADERSHIP AWARDS. MAKENZIE WAS AWARDED THE LOVING SERVANT AND MAYA RECEIVED THE JOYFUL SERVANT. MAYA PREVIOUSLY EARNED THE LOVING SERVANT AWARD.



GIRL SCOUT CADETTEES (L TO R) CIERRA HENRY, DAKOTA HENRY, MADELEINE BROWN, AND SHONNA SMITH OF THE GREENVILLE AVE. CHURCH OF CHRIST IN RICHARDSON, TX, EARNED THE GOOD SERVANT.



CUB SCOUT NATE LONGHENRY OF CULVER CITY, CA, EARNED THE LOVING SERVANT.



BROWNIE GIRL SCOUT MARGOT MORGAN OF GARLAND, TX, WAS AWARDED THE LOVING SERVANT.



MEMBERS OF TROOP 8 OF JACKSON, TN, WERE PRESENTED THEIR JOYFUL SERVANT AWARDS. PICTURED ARE (L TO R): JADEN BRACKEN, HAL CARTER, MATTHEW RIGGSBEE, BLAKE KING, NOAH TUBBS AND SCOUTMASTER SHAWN TUBBS. TREVOR WILSON AND WADE BAKER (NOT PICTURED) ALSO EARNED THE JOYFUL SERVANT.



JOEY BARTU OF EXETER, NE, WAS RECENTLY AWARDED THE GOOD SERVANT AWARD. JOEY ATTENDS THE 56<sup>TH</sup> AND VINE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN LINCOLN, NE, ALONG WITH HIS PARENTS DEAN AND LEESA BARTU. JOEY IS A LIFE SCOUT IN TROOP 270 OUT OF FRIEND, NE, AND A MEMBER OF CREW 1 IN LINCOLN. AS A CUB SCOUT JOEY EARNED THE LOVING SERVANT AND JOYFUL SERVANT AWARDS.



MYLES DAY OF OLATHE, KS, WAS PRESENTED HIS LOVING SERVANT AT THE 151<sup>ST</sup> STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST IN OLATHE. PICTURED WITH MYLES ARE DAD, RYAN, AND KENT BARNETT, WHO WAS ABLE TO ATTEND THE PRESENTATION ON SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>.



# PHILMONT CONFERENCE CANCELLED

**M**CCS elected to cancel the Scouting in Churches of Christ conference scheduled for August 3 - 9th due to a lack of registered participants. In May, it became evident that registration for the conference was very low and therefore in jeopardy. The decision was made to set criteria that had to be met in order for the conference to occur. It was agreed upon by MCCS officers, staff and conference faculty that if there were not five first time participants signed up to attend the conference by July 1st, the conference would be cancelled. This deadline was set so that we could notify Philmont Training Center (PTC) of the cancellation in a timely manner. It was felt that the time, the effort, and the money to put on the conference could be better spent on other MCCS events later in the year. When the deadline arrived, only three first timers had registered.

Kent cited at least two possible reasons for the low numbers. First, the date for the Relationships Week at PTC was scheduled for late in the summer and prospective participants stated that they had already made plans earlier in the summer, and second, many families expressed that school activities (e.g. sports, band, etc.) had already started or were about to start the following week. It is hoped that Philmont will consider such concerns when planning future Relationship Weeks.

MCCS is hopeful that we can soon have another conference at Philmont that will reach out to parents and leaders who want to learn how to better use our curricula and different youth leadership programs in their congregations.

Despite the fact that the "Scouting in the Church of Christ Conference" did not take place, Kent Barnett attended an-



PHILMONT PTC ATTENDEES (L TO R) WAYNE HARRELL, JAMES RAMEY, RHONDA HARRELL, MIKE RAMEY AND KENT BARNETT

other conference that same week along with others who had planned to attend the Church of Christ conference.

Kent Barnett and Wayne Harrell of El Dorado, AR, attended the Faith Based Initiative Conference. Wayne's wife Rhonda enjoyed the Silverado program for spouses at PTC. Mike Ramey of Dexter, MI, enjoyed the Visual Storytelling Conference while his oldest son, Mikey, enjoyed a Mountain Trek in the backcountry and younger son, James, participated in PTC programming. Nathan Williams, Philmont Chaplain, was able to take Kent, Wayne and Rhonda into the backcountry on an SUV tour to see some parts of Philmont that are not typically seen by PTC participants.

Good fellowship was enjoyed by all who attended.

## MCCS HIKING STAFF MEDALLIONS

MCCS now has hiking staff medallions. These are heavy brass medallions that will last a lifetime and show your proud association with MCCS. They are solid brass with the red, black and white of the MCCS patch emblem overlayed. This is a great gift to accompany an award presentation or to say thank you to a counselor or mentor. They are 1 1/2 inches in height. They will be a great addition to your wooden hiking staves and will shine prominently on a TLUSA Trailman's standard. **We are pleased to be able to offer these for \$10 each, 3 for \$25, or in bulk 10 for \$70. This price is inclusive of shipping and handling. If you would like to order these please contact MCCS.**



# REFLECTIONS FROM A PHILMONT CHAPLAIN

by Nathan Williams  
MCCS Trustee & 2014 Philmont Chaplain



**F**or many years it had been a goal of mine to serve on staff at Philmont. Upon entering graduate school this past year I realized that I would have a summer that would afford me that opportunity. I talked with Kent Barnett about the possibility of serving in the chaplaincy at Philmont. Kent and others generously recommended me to the leadership there. I served from the last week of May until the last week of August. I had served as a chaplain at Jamboree in 2010. There I found that my ministry to the young people in my care was limited by the numbers who were present, but at Philmont Scout Ranch we are limited by the geography of over 236 square miles of rugged backcountry. Chaplaincy duties at the ranch included hospital chaplaincy, conflict resolution, ferrying injured and ill into and out of the backcountry, counseling, daily services (with 3-4 on Sundays) and death and illness notices. Philmont Chaplaincy is a true ministry of presence that was challenging, tiring and incredibly fulfilling.



PHILMONT CHAPLAIN NATHAN WILLIAMS GREETSCOUTS BEFORE NIGHTLY SERVICES IN THE PROTESTANT CHAPEL AT PHILMONT AND IN THE TOP PHOTO OFFERS A BLESSING DURING AN EVENING SERVICE OVER CHAPLAINS AIDES WHO ARE ABOUT TO EMBARK ON THEIR TREKS WITH THEIR CREWS.

The following is an excerpt from an editorial I wrote for the staff newspaper, *PhilNews*. It gives some perspective into the type of ministry and sharing we do as chaplains with staff and participants from all religious backgrounds.

...Our scars tell our stories. I saw a dramatic photo spread of women who had survived breast cancer and had radical mastectomies in a national magazine. These courageous women had shed their tops and were showing their scars off together. They understood that they were doing something dramatic and that their scars told a story. Theirs was a united story of survival, endurance and conquering cancer.

I have a few scars, and when I reflect on them I can recall in detail how I got those scars. They are a reminder on the tablet of my body of the stress that I have put my body through and in some cases foolish mistakes I made. I was talking with a friend in the backcountry who showed me his scars on his chest and discussed the multiple heart surgeries he endured as a child. He is thankful for his scars. The scars on his chest are his story of survival. But our scars only come when we allow our wounds to heal. The scars tell the stories of our

healings. Scars sometimes even ache a little and remind us of our past experiences.

Many of us have emotional wounds. It is dangerous when we let those wounds fester and we continue to pick at them... When we dwell on those things and do not work to heal we keep those wounds open. Please understand that you will always have that scar, but a scar is not a festering wound. A scar says I have survived and endured. Your scars are... part of your story of survival. Our God hears our prayers and helps us heal, but God does not take away our scars because our scars help us tell our story of survival which allows us to help others.

My challenge to you this week is to embrace your scars. If sharing the story of your survival will help someone then please do that, but look with pride on both your physical and emotional scars and know that they are a testimony of you having overcome adversity. My prayer for you is that you will patiently allow your wounds to heal and that one day you will be strong enough to talk about your scars and help someone as you share your story of survival. Wear your scars well!





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## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# EAGLE SCOUT EARNS ALL FOUR MCCS AWARDS!

**M**CCS loves it when a young person completes one of our servant leadership awards, but we feel incredibly excited when we have a young person complete all four of our youth awards. **Eagle Scout Mathew Schertzer from Concord, NC, earned all four Servant Leadership Awards beginning with the Loving Servant in Cub Scouts and now concluding with his earning the Giving Servant as a Boy Scout in high school.** Mathew writes about his experience with the Servant Leadership curricula below.

...when it came to my religion I never thought much about it. Then one day while talking to my father, he brought up the MCCS religious awards... I thought I would give it a try. And throughout my studies to achieve the awards, I began thinking about what it meant to me to do my best to God. Through the courses I believe that I have grown from a boy, to a young man that tries to think about the Lord and to find ways that will allow the Lord to say, 'Well done, you have done your best.' I am proud of attaining Boy Scouting's highest rank of Eagle Scout and the honor I will carry though my life for it. I am grateful for my time in scouting gaining knowledge of leadership. I believe in our slogan 'Do a good turn daily' and what a great value it is. I feel very accomplished for having completed all four of the awards from Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting. Thank



you to all those who put in the hard work to put these programs together...

MCCS Executive Director Kent Barnett stated, "It is an incredible accomplishment for a young person to earn all four youth awards. Mathew is to be commended for this, and his testimony of the caliber of our programs shows that each level incorporates new qualities of servant leadership in young people's hearts as they work toward each award. It is my hope that more and more we will see young people levelling up and earning multiple awards."