



MCCS NEWS

MEMBERS OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST FOR SCOUTING

EIGHT FAITHFUL SERVANTS RECOGNIZED



EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN CHURCH FAITHFUL SERVANT'S GEORGE KOPRIVNEK, RON CRAWFORD, TROY BEILSTEIN (PREVIOUS AWARDEE), GARY UNANGST, NATHAN WILLIAMS (FROM MCCS), CHUCK GRAHAM, TIM CLARK, CARL MEYER (PREVIOUS AWARDEE) AND CHARLIE DREW. BRENT THIEC AND STEVE BEGGS, NOT PICTURED, ALSO RECEIVED THE AWARD.

In February 2018, Emmanuel Christian Church's Trail Life Troop PA-0002 and American Heritage Girls Troop PA-0002 in New Vernon, PA, celebrated their winter court of honor and MCCS Executive Director, Nathan Williams was pleased to be present to recognize eight Faithful Servant Awardees. The awardees had an accumulated 143 years of Scout and Trail Life leadership between them.

Williams stated "The men we're honoring have each given well over 10 years of service to this organization and other youth organizations." Williams encouraged all the Trailmen and American Heritage Girls present to earn MCCS 's Servant Leadership awards.

He described servant leadership as getting into the muck and nastiness, and working until the problem is solved. He reminded everyone that Jesus himself, took the towel and washed the feet of the disciples, a task normally performed by the lowliest of servants. "On your trail you've all had some amazing experiences," Williams said. "You've seen some profound challenges; you've had some chores to do. I encourage you to take up your towel and to find a way to wash your fellow troop members feet, and that may mean carrying extra water sometimes, washing the dishes when it's not your turn, doing a really dirty job that you don't want to do. That may mean carrying somebody's weight when they're really struggling."

"Tonight, I'm here to recognize eight men who have serving hearts," he said. "I'm going to be hanging a big medal around their neck on a ribbon, but I probably should be giving them a towel."

Each of the leaders recognized has a long history of service to the church and the world of scouting.

Tim Clark has served as a scout and Trail Life leader for 17 years, and has a son who is an Eagle Scout. Ron Crawford, is the troop's financial guru, and has been with them for 11 years. Charlie Drew, the local barber, has been involved in scouting as a leader for over 28 years. Chuck Graham has been a troop leader for 16 years, and is a civil engineer who designed and built the camp that the troop uses in summer. George Koprivnek has been inspiring boys and teaching them about electricity for 22 years. Brent Thiec helped start the troop 21 years ago. Steve Beggs has been involved with scouting and Trail Life for 11 years. Gary Unangst is a tenacious advocate and coordinator for the troop for 17 years.

In addition to the men who received the Faithful Servant awards, Gloria Peterman, the American Heritage Girls troop shepherd was recognized for having received the president's volunteer service award – gold award for over 4,000 hours of volunteer work.

a note from Nathan

Friends, it has been a while since we published a newsletter, but we have been busy and now we need to get the word out to all of you about our work with leaders and young people all over the country.



2018 was a busy year for MCCS and we could not have done it without the prayers and support of thousands of people, units and congregations throughout the nation. I was privileged to travel all over the country to spread the "Good News" about the Servant Leadership series as we encourage parents, young people and churches to utilize our curricula. My travels in 2018 included our annual trustee meeting in San Antonio, TX, followed by Emmanuel Christian Church in New Vernon, PA, sponsoring me to fly up and to share some wonderful Christian hospitality as we recognized eight (8!!!!) Faithful Servants. I hope this inspires all of us to seek out and recognize the amazing adult leaders who work tirelessly to serve youth. Easter Weekend was filled with trustees and volunteers serving at Lads-to-Leaders/Leaderettes and Leadership Training for Christ events all over the country. Attending the BSA National Annual Meeting was made easier this year due to it being in Dallas, TX. I am privileged to serve on the National Committee serving on Religious Relationships, Education Relationships and Venturing Committees.

In June, 2018, I learned a lot about the fantastic folks who serve and lead American Heritage Girls when MCCS exhibited at the AHGinspire Leadership Conference in Saint Louis, MO. In addition to me our exhibit was very ably (wo)manned by Stars and Stripes recipient Samantha Thompson, a recipient of all four Servant Leadership Awards and a Servant Leadership Scholarship Awardee along with her very proud mother, April. The next week MCCS Chair Houston Costolo and I met in Indianapolis, IN, where we exhibited at the North American Christian Convention, which is the premier gathering for Independent Christian Churches. MCCS encouraged these restoration movement fellowships to adopt and utilize our curricula.

I was honored to serve as a chaplain at VenturingFest over the first week in July 2018 which was held at the Bechtel Summit Scouting Reserve in West Virginia. Over 3000 Venturers from across the nation were celebrating Venturing's 20th birthday. I love "wearing the green" with Venturers and leaders from all over. It was a special privilege to meet with Venturing legends (and longtime MCCS supporters and encouragers) Larry and Donna Cunningham, two of the founders of Venturing.

2019 has been just as busy for MCCS. Harding University hosted our annual trustee meeting in early February on campus in Searcy, AR. Then nine days later Trustee Steve Leddy and Chair Houston Costolo attended the BSA Religious Relationships committee workshop meeting in Nashville, TN, along with me. Easter Weekend again was filled with trustees and volunteers serving at Lads-to-Leaders/Leaderettes and Leadership Training for Christ events.

In May, I attended the BSA National Annual Meeting in Denver, CO, along with Chair Houston Costolo, Vice-Chair Dan Tullos and trustee and Advisory Board Chair Steve Leddy. There we were privileged to witness former MCCS Executive Director Kent Barnett receive The National Duty to God Award at the Duty to God Breakfast. It was great to spend time fellowshiping with Kent and Denise as we watched him receive this much deserved award recognizing his many years of service keeping Duty to God at the forefront of scouting in the BSA.

In July, MCCS once again took to the world stage where Houston Costolo and I served alongside Chuck Forsythe (pulpit minister at the Xenia Church of Christ in Xenia, OH) as chaplains at the World Scout Jamboree at Bechtel Summit Scouting Reserve. We served youth, leaders and staff from all over the world. Trustees Chris Peurifoy and Wayne Harrell also served on staff at the Jamboree. Simultaneously, Trustee Mike Flowers was exhibiting for MCCS at Trail Life USA's first ever National Summer Adventure in Toccoa, GA.

In September, Trustee Steve Leddy and I attended the BSA Religious Relationships meeting in Salt Lake City, UT, where we participated in sessions working to further develop the concept of "Duty to God" within BSA.

All of this work and travel and its impact on expanding God's kingdom is a direct result of your support. We need you now more than ever as we work with more and more youth from additional youth impacting organizations. You can send your gift along with the coupon on page 8 of this newsletter, make a direct bill payment (a favorite method for many of our donors), or go to our website and give online. Your contribution is tax deductible and a statement will be mailed to you annually in late January detailing your total donations for your tax purposes. Please help MCCS finish this year as a financial success! Please look at Page 7 of this newsletter and say a prayer of thanks for the people who are long term and sustaining supporters of this ministry, who have been recognized as members of *The Billy and Louise Walker Society*.

Feel free to call me at 1-800-393-1494 (it rings through to my desk or mobile) or you may send me an email at nathan.williams@goodservant.org if I can be of service to you. Please pray for me and this ministry. Thank you for everything you do to serve youth!

In the spirit of Psalm 115:1,

A handwritten signature of Nathan Williams in black ink.

Nathan Williams
MCCS National Executive Director

LONGTIME FRIEND OF MCCS GOES HOME

There is a very simple mark on the grave of the founder of scouting, Lord Baden-Powell, in Kenya with a trail sign which consists of a dot surrounded by a circle. The mark means "Gone Home."

On July 12, 2018, one of MCCS's great benefactors, leaders and friends went home. William H. "Billy" Walker, Sr., was 89 years old. He was introduced to our organization at the 1989 Boy Scout National Jamboree. Billy embraced MCCS because of its commitment to teaching Christian Servant Leadership to youth. He began supporting the organization immediately and was soon a trustee. He served as chair and actively worked to build and strengthen MCCS. Billy was a constant presence for MCCS serving at multiple Jamborees and Philmont conferences as long as he was physically able to attend.

Billy was an active Boy Scout leader serving with Troop 137 in Franklin, Tennessee, utilizing MCCS's Servant Leadership curricula with the scouts. Billy was a recipient of the Silver Beaver Award from Middle Tennessee Council and a Faithful Servant awardee. At the Boxwell Boy Scout Reservation, he was instrumental in establishing the COPE Course which is named in his honor. Billy served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean Conflict. He was a graduate of Battle Ground Academy and attended David Lipscomb College, then graduated from the Bowling Green Business University. He served as an elder at Fourth Avenue Church of Christ and was an active member of Heritage Church of Christ. Billy owned and operated Walker Chevrolet in Franklin, Tennessee. He received his 50-year dealer recognition from General Motors and served on various local and national committees in the automotive dealership industry.

Billy is survived by his wife of 65 years, Louise, and his loving children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Billy had a heart for MCCS and he embraced this organization from the first time that he encountered it. He saw that it could build the Kingdom of God by influencing youth positively. He and Louise shared their blessings generously and opened their home repeatedly to aid the growth and development of this organization. Billy and Louise Walker's legacy of sustained generosity ensured that MCCS could grow and become the organization that it is today. The Board of Trustees voted at our meeting in February to create a The Billy and Louise Walker Society to honor patrons of MCCS who have given significantly over time to support this organization. The Walker Society will serve as a lasting tribute to Billy and Louise's selfless support of MCCS. The charter members of the Walker Society are listed in this newsletter.

Billy epitomized the Faithful Servant award. He lived the legacy of Servant Leadership that the award represents. Fittingly, Billy was laid to rest with his Faithful Servant medal.



TRUSTEE JOHN WOOD, BILLY WALKER AND CHAPLAIN SAM HOUSTON AT THE 2005 BOY SCOUT NATIONAL JAMBOREE



LOUISE AND BILLY WALKER ON THE DECK OF THEIR HOME IN FRANKLIN, TN.



BILLY WALKER AND TRUSTEE KAREN ELSWOOD AT THE MCCS PHILMONT CONFERENCE IN 2004.

SERVANT LEADERS RECOGNIZED BY MCCS AND OTHERS



NATHAN WILLIAMS PRESENTED CANDY DAVIS WITH THE FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARD AT BOLIVAR CHURCH OF CHRIST IN CLEVELAND, MS. CANDY IS AN AMAZING CUB LEADER IN CHICKASAW COUNCIL, BSA SPECIAL). SHE WAS NAMED SOUTHERN REGION BSA'S 2015 CUB-MASTER OF THE YEAR.



JOHN ANDERSON OF NASHVILLE, TN, WAS PRESENTED THE FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARD. JOHN IS A LEADER IN TROOP 227 IN THE MIDDLE TENNESSEE COUNCIL CHARTERED BY CRIEVE HALL CHURCH OF CHRIST. PICTURED PRESENTING THE AWARD TO JOHN IS WILL TIDWELL, COMMITTEE CHAIR AND MINISTER AT TUSCULUM CHURCH OF CHRIST.



JUSTIN WITTIG WAS AWARDED HIS EAGLE SCOUT. JUSTIN HAS EARNED ALL FOUR OF MCCS SERVANT LEADERSHIP AWARDS.



CHUCK LANKFORD(L) AND BOBBY LANE (R) OF COOKEVILLE, TN, WERE EACH PRESENTED THE FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARD BY TRUSTEE STEVE LEDDY DURING SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES AT JEFFERSON AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST.



KNOX WATKINS OF CANE RIDGE, TN, WAS PRESENTED HIS LOVING SERVANT AWARD. KNOX IS A MEMBER OF PACK 54 IN THE MIDDLE TENNESSEE COUNCIL CHARTERED BY EZELL-HARDING CHRISTIAN SCHOOL.



NEAL COATES OF ABILENE, TX, WAS PRESENTED THE FAITHFUL SERVANT AWARD BY NATHAN WILLIAMS AT A COURT OF HONOR FOR TROOP 201. TROOP 201 IS CHARTERED BY ABILENE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS.



NOAH RICHARDSON (L) AND AYDEN GAMBILL (R) BOTH OF NASHVILLE, TN, AND PACK 21 IN THE MIDDLE TENNESSEE COUNCIL EARNED THE LOVING SERVANT AWARD. THESE BEST FRIENDS WORKED ON THE AWARD TOGETHER.

FAITHFUL SERVANT IAN ROMAIN WAS NAMED THE 2019 BSA SOUTHERN REGION ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR. IAN WAS RECOGNIZED FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL WORK AS A RESEARCH SCIENTIST AT VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY AND HIS WORK AT THE UNIT AND COUNCIL LEVEL IN MIDDLE TENNESSEE COUNCIL AND IN ADDITION TO HIS WORK WITH THE BSA NATIONAL COUNCIL.



MCCS RECOGNIZES HEROIC SCOUTING VOLUNTEER

Hate is powerful, and we live in a world that is filled with it and the violence that it inspires. The only thing more powerful than that hate is love. In scripture we find Paul's poignant hymn to love, The Love of Christ, in I Corinthians 13. This is the love that is behind what we know as servant leadership, and it is the love that ties us all together in the kingdom of God. On September 24th, 2017, the Burnette Chapel Church of Christ in Antioch, TN, was faced with hate and violence when a shooter entered their building and killed one person and injured six others.

Many people responded to the chaos of the situation, but one courageous scout leader used her medical training and remained calm as she rendered aid. Minerva Rosa-Gonzalez is credited with saving minister Joey Spann's life after he was struck twice. Ms. Rosa-Gonzalez, a den leader in Cub Pack 54 chartered by Ezell-Harding Christian School, jumped into action and rendered aid with towels and clothing to apply pressure to his life-threatening chest wounds.

The State of Tennessee and VA, where she is employed, recognized Minerva for her heroism and bravery. On Sunday, April 28th, 2019, The Middle Tennessee Council, BSA, awarded her the Boy Scouts of America Heroism Award for her lifesaving actions. Her son, Cub Scout Daniel, received the Honor Medal for his actions.

At the same ceremony, MCCS Advisory Board member Steve Foster presented Minerva with the "Heart of a Servant Award" which was created to recognize her along with a special resolution from the MCCS Board of Trustees. The award was presented to her "...in recognition of and thanks for her extraordinary action on September 24, 2017, and for her continuing service to God and her community in Scouting." Middle Tennessee Council member and MCCS Trustee Steve Leddy stated, "Upon visiting with Minerva I was struck by the uncommon bravery of this very humble woman."

When asked about the effect of that shooter on her congregation, Minerva responded that the congregation had drawn together and closer to God in response to the tragedy. She stated, "He made us stronger; love is always more powerful than hate."



ROSA MINERVA-GONZALEZ AND TRUSTEE STEVE LEDDY AFTER THE PRESENTATION OF THE HEART OF A SERVANT AWARD TO MS. ROSA-GONZALEZ



ROSA MINERVA-GONZALEZ, BURNETTE CHAPEL MINISTER JOEY SPANN AND HER SON DANIEL DURING THE AWARDS PRESENTATION.

CONGRATULATIONS MCCS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

2018 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

PHILIP DYER, OOLTEWAH, TN

JENNIFER JENNINGS, JEFFERSONTOWN, KY

Graduating Seniors: The MCCS Servant Leadership Scholarship Application for 2020 is currently available to download from the scholarship area of our website.

2019 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

JAMES BLANKENSHIP, RICHMOND, KY

REUBEN HOWE, DALE, TX

EMMA STEWART, KATY, TX

SPENCER WOOD, KNOXVILLE, TN



BOLIVAR CHURCH OF CHRIST IN CLEVELAND, MS



LONGVIEW CHURCH OF CHRIST IN LONGVIEW, TX



TUSCULUM CHURCH OF CHRIST, NASHVILLE, TN



LA GRANGE CHURCH OF CHRIST, LA GRANGE, TX



HOLDEN AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST, NEWPORT, AR



CHURCH OF CHRIST IN FALLS CHURCH, FALLS CHURCH, VA

THE BILLY & LOUISE WALKER SOCIETY

Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting continues to thrive and to serve thanks to the generous support of people from all across the country.

The Billy and Louise Walker Society honors the Walker's legacy of service and generosity by recognizing supporters of MCCS who have donated ten-thousand dollars or more cumulatively to the organization.

This organization could not continue to serve without the steady support of people like Billy and Louise Walker and the members of the Walker Society, who share their blessings with this organization. Many of these charter members have given for years to support this ministry as it seeks to influence youth and create Christian Servant Leaders. MCCS will continue to recognize patrons for their lifetimes of giving as we continue to work to impact and educate youth throughout our nation and world to be Christlike leaders. Please continue to pray for the growth of this ministry.



BILLY AND LOUISE WALKER

BILLY* AND LOUISE WALKER
FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE

JAY AND KAY DERRICK
ABILENE, TEXAS

JACK POPE*
AUSTIN, TEXAS

CHARLES ANDERSON
SAN ANGELO, TEXAS

DAVE AND KAREN ELSWOOD
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

JERRY AND PATSY STRADER
ABILENE, TEXAS

JOYCE BARNETT*
ABILENE, TEXAS

HUEY AND SANDRA FORD
MURRAYVILLE, GEORGIA

DAN AND KERI* TULLOS
SEARCY, AR

AL AND BECKY BINGHAM
JOHNS CREEK, GEORGIA

RON AND SHELBY* HORN
NORCROSS, GEORGIA

RALPH AND PEGGY WALLACE
FLORENCE, ALABAMA

DUVAN AND DAWN BROCK
CALHOUN, GEORGIA

CHARLES* AND GENEVA* HUFF
CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO

HALE AND DIANNE WILLIAMS
NESBIT, MISSISSIPPI

CURTIS AND CAROLE BUCHHOLZ
SOLDATNA, ALASKA

STEVE AND CINDY LEDDY
COOKEVILLE, TENNESSEE

JOHN AND VIVIAN WILLIAMS
PADUCAH, KENTUCKY

CHUCK AND CAROLYN DEARTH
BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS

TERRY* AND MELBA MCKEE
TOMBALL, TEXAS

BOBBIE LEE AND BERNICE WOLFE
ABILENE, TEXAS

MARK AND JAN MILLER
ABILENE, TEXAS

*Deceased

GIFTS IN MEMORIAM AND HONORARIAM

IN MEMORY OF BILLY H. WALKER, FRANKLIN, TN

KENT & DENISE BARNETT, ABILENE, TX

JENNIFER BASHAM, CINCINNATI, OH

BOBBY & JOY BROWN, BRENTWOOD, TN

MRS. E. B. CANNON, FRANKLIN, TN

JAMES CORLEW CHEVROLET, CLARKSVILLE, TN

PANDA & GLEN DODSON, COLLEGE GROVE, TN

STEVE & MARSHA FORRESTER, McEWEN, TN

GENERAL MOTORS SOUTHEAST REGION, ALPHARETTA, GA

EMILY MAGID, FRANKLIN, TN

RALPH & PEGGY WALLACE, FLORENCE, AL

NATHAN WILLIAMS, ABILENE, TX

BOBBIE LEE & BERNICE WOLFE, ABILENE, TX

IN MEMORY OF CLEVE CULLER, ABILENE, TX

HOMER HILLIS, ABILENE, TX

IN MEMORY OF NORMA SHACKLEFORD, UVALDE, TX

HOMER HILLIS, ABILENE, TX

IN MEMORY OF NATHALIE ELSWOOD, KANSAS CITY, KS

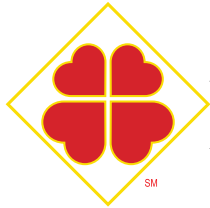
NATHAN WILLIAMS, ABILENE, TX

BOBBIE LEE & BERNICE WOLFE, ABILENE, TX

IN HONOR OF JERRY STRADER, ABILENE, TX

CELEBRATING HIS 75TH YEAR AS AN EAGLE SCOUT

NATHAN WILLIAMS, ABILENE, TX



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KENT BARNETT RECEIVES BSA NATIONAL DUTY TO GOD AWARD

ON MAY 30TH, 2019, AT THE BSA NATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING IN DENVER KENT BARNETT WAS AWARDED THE BSA'S NATIONAL DUTY TO GOD AWARD AT THE DUTY TO GOD BREAKFAST IN RECOGNITION OF HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO SCOUTING AND HIS WORK ON THE BSA RELIGIOUS RELATIONSHIPS COMMITTEE. PRESENTING THE AWARD TO KENT ARE (LEFT) DR. ROBERT EDMONDS FROM THE RELIGIOUS RELATIONSHIPS COMMITTEE AND (RIGHT) CHIEF SCOUT EXECUTIVE MICHAEL SURBAUGH. MCCS TRUSTEES ARE VERY PROUD OF KENT FOR BEING RECOGNIZED WITH THIS AWARD AND ARE THANKFUL FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THIS ORGANIZATION.



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. MCCS is an IRS 501(c)(3) institution. All gifts are deductible as provided by law. **Please use the coupon below or donate online through the "About Us" link at www.goodservant.org.**

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

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