



Insight

Christmas 2007

Volume 26, Issue 3



Special points of interest:

- ✓ Many changes and activities make 2007 an exciting year.
- ✓ Cold weather brings changes in how students care for the livestock.
- ✓ Volunteers create wonderful learning experiences for students.
- ✓ Students share some of their struggles and some of their joys.

*Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year*

From the Director's Desk: Jim Brian

Another year is drawing to a close and we have been greatly blessed by the love and generosity so many of you have shown to us. It has been a year full of exciting challenges and opportunities. We have had the wonderful privilege of investing in the lives of many people through our boarding school, our Family Camp, our referral ministry and a number of speaking engagements.

This year we were able to put a new, high-tinsel fence around the front pasture. We renovated our educational building with the help of two groups from Mobile Missions Assistance Project. We were able to purchase ten, new computers for our school and a new 12-passenger

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van. These new improvements will enable us to minister to more students and families and keep our costs for repairs at a minimum.

We have also been busy with the usual winter retreats, camping expeditions, a Dragons baseball game, and a trip to Kings Island. This fall we spent a day making apple butter and sauerkraut. Another day we butchered two pigs, and we spent many hours hoeing, weeding and harvesting our vegetable garden. The boys also enjoyed a trip to the opera and an etiquette class with our good friends Don and Sue Smith. Wayne

Price continues to teach Mechanical Drawing every Thursday and Pastor Don



There's nothing like a good mud bath at the Miltons' to make you feel like a man.

Wells held archery classes when the weather permitted. These are just a few of the

many activities that help our boys learn what it means to be a young man growing into adulthood, learning biblical respect, responsibility and relationships. For the most part, these experiences would be meaningless if they didn't point them to a God who loves them very deeply and has a wonderful plan for each of their lives. What a wonderful privilege we have to be able to share with them how the Creator of the universe became a man, so He could die for our sins and offer us life and victory here on earth and life eternal. It only gets better and better!

From Our Teacher: Roger Phipps

It is hard to believe that Thanksgiving Day is behind us and Christmas is nearly here. With the advent of cold weather, some of the regular livestock duties change. The cattle take more effort to care for now. The guys must give them grain and hay, and their water needs to be kept clear of ice. One of the steers



Chris W. works on his project in the wood shop.

is in a pen now in order to fatten for the freezer. The chickens need extra light and heat, and the pigs can no longer drink from the automatic fountain.

The students have been busy in wood shop class, and only days ago they were able to help

Marmon Valley Farms set up for their "Country Christmas" pageant.

While Thanksgiving and Christmas bring changes in routine, as they do for you, and provide extra time at home with families, the message at Operation Rebirth remains unchanged. The students are reminded that we are called to be thankful persons. We are told in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

We are especially thankful for the great condescension wherein God became human flesh to become the

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sacrifice for our sin. Although some things are different at this time of year, this message of eternal hope remains the same.



Denny and Chris B. working at Marmon Valley Farm.

From Our House Parents: Larry & Rose Schultz

“We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is appropriate...” I Thess. 1:3. If any single scripture can express our hearts at this season, surely this passage says it all. This past year, like every year, has been full of great blessings. Some of those blessings are the many friends who have spent precious time on campus with the boys and staff of Operation Rebirth.

The Lord has used work groups on Saturdays to cut and split firewood, build fences,

repair barn doors, paint walls, build structures, and help in a multitude of other ways. We



Jeremiah doing relief carving in Wood Shop.

have all enjoyed evenings spent with Price Smith teaching chess, mechanical drawing classes with Wayne Price on Thursdays, harmonica

classes with Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Black,

making sun catchers with Chuck Kimmel, archery with Pastor Don Wells,

pottery classes with Bill Weldy—the list goes on and on. Each of these individuals has



Denny & Chris play the Corn Game at Miltons'.

selflessly given the most precious gift they could give—TIME, returned to God for His use in the lives of struggling young men.

At this holiday season, we want to say a heartfelt “THANK YOU” and God bless.

From Our Students

My name is Alex and I am 13 years old. I have been at OR for 6 months. The hardest thing for me at OR is being away from my family. My favorite thing to do at OR is archery with Pastor Wells.

Hi, my name is Erik. I am 12 years old and have been here since April of this year. I'm trying to learn not to talk back and not to mumble. The most difficult part of

being here is getting along with the staff members. The things I like most are the school work and working with the animals.

My name is Glen and I am 13-1/2 years old. I have been here for 5 months. I am struggling with school work. What I like most are the field trips and free time.



Paint Ball at the Miltons' was not for the faint-hearted.



Erik, Glen and Alex work on their sun catchers.

My name is Chris B. and I have been at OR for two years. I struggle with getting along with the other boys and keeping my room clean. I really like working with the horses.

Hi, my name is Chris W. and I've been here for a little more than a year. My biggest struggle is getting along with the other boys. What I like most about being at

OR is the work I get to do. I like to stay busy.

My name is Michael. I am 16 years old and I have been here 1-1/2 years. I am having problems with my temper. I like to spend time working on my area of responsibility. Please pray for me.



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Needs List:		Work Projects:	
Lawn mowers	Extension cord	Loafing shed	Hog pen fence
Hay (large, round bales)	Cattle fence	Mudroom roof	Cement sidewalks
Bale spear (for a 3 pt. hitch)	Wheelbarrow	Storm door on school	Driveway
Outdoor benches	Upright freezer	Garage door	Paint living room
Refrigerator (22 cu. ft., 30" wide)	Straw	Barn hydrant	
Salt for water softener			
Good wooden fence posts			



Everyone had a great time camping at the Miltons'.

Operation Rebirth, Inc.

Staff:

Director: Jim Brian
Assistant Director: Roger Phipps
Dorm Parents: Larry & Rose Schultz
Secretary/Teacher: Susan Brian
Bookkeeper: Pam Eddy

Board Members:

Dave Amlin, Dave Brennan, Chuck Curran,
Kent Eddy, Richard Fegley, Sam Ronicker,
Mike Williams,