



Insight

Spring 2009

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Great Ministry Opportunity!

Do you know a young couple who might be interested in serving the Lord in full-time ministry? Operation Rebirth is looking for a young, spiritually mature couple who have committed their lives to serving our wonderful Savior and who love kids.

While this is a full-time position, the boys do go home approximately 18 times a year, so our dorm parents have time to rest and recuperate. We provide them with an apartment, food, health insurance and a moderate salary.

Since the boys are in school approximately 8 hours a day, there is opportunity for our dorm parents to have another, part-time job. If you know someone who might be interested, please call our office at 937-663-5765.

Don't miss this opportunity for an affordable, fun-filled vacation!

Join us in beautiful Ontario, Canada

July 11-18th for Operation Rebirth's Family Camp.

There will be great food, great fun and great fellowship.

Call today for more information:
937-663-5765.

Special points of interest:

- ✓ Help wanted!
- ✓ Family Camp to be held July 11-18th.
- ✓ Students are learning how to "throw a pot."
- ✓ Don't let traditions distract you from the true meaning of Easter!
- ✓ Boys are learning to "put off the old self and put on the new."
- ✓ Students talk about some of their experiences at OR.

From the Director's Desk: Jim Brian

If the Easter bunny could talk, he would tell you that hunting Easter eggs is great fun. Rudolph, the red-nose reindeer, would say that opening Christmas presents is really exciting. Good fun and lighthearted traditions can add to the celebrations of life and they may add to the meaning of life's moments. However, it seems to me that we as Christians may often water down the true meaning of these holidays by celebrating like unbelievers. Do I celebrate Easter focused on the fun or on the God-man who came and died for sinners like me then rose from the grave exactly as prophesied over 600 years ago? Are we like so many who place the truths of God's Word and Christ's resurrection on the same level as the Easter bunny and Rudolph? I would challenge all of us during this Easter season to take a closer look at life's traditions and ex-

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periences to see if there isn't overwhelming evidence that Easter is more than bunnies and egg hunts. It is really all about the God-man, Jesus, who took our sins upon Himself and gave us His righteousness to reunite us with the Father and to set us free to do what is right and just.

At Operation Rebirth, we have lots of fun and lots of good experiences. But, good and bad experiences have no value without an anchor that gives us value beyond our experiences. Horseback riding, raising a garden, learning how

to make crafts, school work—all these are meaningful because Christ is risen! He is alive! He is dependable! He is powerful!



Jack Fetter shows the boys how to clean fish.

Above all He is loving and forgiving! So, while our students learn and do a lot of things, the most important thing for them to learn is that they are deeply loved, completely forgiven and set free—from anger, bitterness, and shame—when they by faith surrender their lives to the Lord

Jesus Christ.

We are deeply grateful to you who make Operation Rebirth a reality by your prayers and your gifts. Our prayer is that your Easter celebration will be filled with the knowledge of Him who loves you and gave Himself for you that you might have eternal life and have it abundantly. God bless you.



Jim shares with the boys around the table at the Wilderness Cabin.

From Our Teacher: Roger Phipps

The students here just finished a pottery class under the tutelage of Bill Weldy. By the time the course was finished, each one had made at least one project that their teacher will fire for them. As each boy learned to center his clay on the wheel, then form that clay into a vase, bowl, or cup,



Boys learn about gun safety at the Wilderness Cabin.

there were may times that he altered his plans for the project. As I have thought about that course, I have remembered God's word to Israel: *The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD saying, "Arise and go down to the potter's house, and there I will*

announce My words to you." Then I went down to the potter's house, and there he was, making something on the wheel. But the vessel that he was making of clay was spoiled in the hand of the potter; so he re-made it into another vessel, as it pleased the potter to make. Then the word of the LORD came to me saying, "Can I not, O house of Israel, deal with you as this potter does?" declares the LORD. "Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O

house of Israel. (Jeremiah 18:1-6 NASB)

As Judah in the days of Jeremiah, so is each of these boys clay in the hands of God the Potter. Each made of the same stuff yet dissimilar in form and function; we pray that they find their places in God's plan for their lives.



Jack uses a web to teach the boys about truthfulness.

From Our House Parents: Sam & Teresa Ronicker

Are you ready for spring? I know several boys that are! After a long winter we're ready to go outside and breathe some fresh air. We're ready to open the windows and let the wind blow through.

Being cooped up in the house this time of year adds a new meaning to the term "March Madness". We've shoveled snow over the past few months. Bring on

the sunshine!

Soon we'll see buds on the trees, the birds returning, flowers springing up and the grass beginning to turn green. The earth will put off the old drabness of winter and put on the

newness of spring. It reminds me of what Paul wrote to the Ephesians in chapter 4 of his letter: To put off the old self and put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

And that's just

learning to put off that old self and put on the new, in true righteousness and holiness.

We appreciate your prayers as we work together to learn to put off that old self and put on the new self in Christ. Think of us at Operation Rebirth when you see signs of spring!



Jack uses a bowling ball to teach Erik about knowing and trusting God.



Ian tries his hand at hitting the target while Erik and Steven watch.

From Our Students

My name is Glen and I will be 16 in May. I have been at OR for 1-1/2 years. I enjoyed shooting the pellet gun at our retreat to the Wilderness Cabin. I am learning how to be kinder to people and more patient.

My name is Steven and I am 14 years old. I have been a OR almost one year. I am learning how to control my emotions, especially my anger.

Hi, my name Alex and I am 14. I have been at OR about 9 months. I enjoyed all the beautiful wildlife at the Wilderness Cabin. Jack used some desert ironwood to remind us that God doesn't look on the outward appearance but on the inside.

My name is Jeremiah and I am 18 years old. During the 4 years I have been at OR I have learned how to be a leader, how to listen, how to submit to authority and how to get past my emotions.

Hi! My name is Ian. I am 15 and I have been at OR almost a year.



Boys enjoy hiking in Hocking Hills State Park.

I recently rededicated my life to the Lord. I still struggle with anger, so please pray for me. I enjoyed cleaning fish at the Wilderness Cabin.

My name is Ian and I am 13 years old. I have been at OR for 5 months. I am learning how to get along with others even when you don't have electricity. I really enjoyed the natural beauty of Hocking Hills.



The boys are fascinated by the natural beauty at Hocking Hills.



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Needs List:

Lawn mowers	Extension cord	Good used cars to sell
Hay (large, round bales)	Cattle fence	Corn to put on storage
Bale spear (for a 3 pt. hitch)	Wheelbarrows	Help for Work projects
Square hay baler	Upright freezer	Gas grill
Refrigerator (22 cu. ft., 30" wide)	Straw	Large crock pot
Good wooden fence posts	Stock Trailer	



**Richard Fegley talks to the boys
about what kind of "containers"
God wants us to be.**

Operation Rebirth, Inc.

Staff:

Director: Jim Brian
Assistant Director: Roger Phipps
Dorm Parents: Sam and Teresa Ronicker
Secretary/Teacher: Susan Brian
Bookkeeper: Pam Eddy

Board Members:

Dave Amlin, Dave Brennan, Kent Eddy, Richard Fegley, Paul Sullenberger, Mike Williams,