



Insight

Summer 2008

Volume 27, Issue 2

In Loving Memory

Three dear friends and supporters of Operation Rebirth recently went to be with the Lord. **Robert Ochs** served on our Advisory Board for many years. He and his wife Denyse prayed for us regularly and helped us in so many ways to develop our present property. **Dr. Dan Grabill** spoke at Family Camp last year and a number of other times. He also served on our Board of Directors and our Advisory Board. He and his wife Joan supported us regularly with their prayers and their giving. Dan also sponsored and took part in a number of our building projects. **Mary Snell** supported Operation Rebirth regularly with her prayers and her giving. She also helped us to prepare our newsletter for mailing each quarter and to wrap our meat on butchering days.

We praise God for all that these dear friends did to make possible this ministry to struggling young men and their families. We also deeply appreciate the many gifts that were given to Operation Rebirth in their memory.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His godly ones."

Special points of interest:

- ✓ In loving memory...
- ✓ Are you willing to step out of your comfort zone to follow Christ?
- ✓ MMAPers spend 3 weeks at OR.
- ✓ Students share their hopes and dreams.
- ✓ New graduates begin a new chapter in their lives.
- ✓ President of Cedarville College to speak at 26th Annual Sharing Banquet.

From the Director's Desk: Jim Brian

In Proverbs 29:18 we read that where there is no vision, the people perish. Webster defines vision as something seen by other than normal sight; the ability to perceive something not actually visible, as through mental acuteness or keen foresight.

Recently, I asked each boy I counseled three questions: What would you like to do (dreams)?; What can you do (capability)?; What are you willing to do (commitment)? Much of a child's mental and emotional energy focuses on dreams or fantasies with no capability or commitment. It may be born out of movies or television with no

Inside this issue:

From Our Teacher	2
From Our Dorm Parents	2
From Our Students	3
Needs List	4

(Continued on page 2)

ability or commitment to make it happen.

Much of our adult population has mentored our young people into this vain, aimless, pleasure seeking life. Even in the

church we are unwilling to step out of our comfort zones to serve our Lord who left us an example of suffering and sacrifice.

Please pray for our staff that we will grow in a

deeper walk of service to our wonderful Savior who made the ultimate sacrifice for us.

Pray that we will never stop challenging families—parents and children—to turn their eyes upon Jesus “who for the joy set before

Him endured the cross...” Pray that we will be of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Doing nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regarding one another as more important than ourselves.



Pastor Dale McCloud had lunch with us after leading chapel.

26th Annual Sharing Banquet
Monday, Oct. 27th
Guest Speaker:
Dr. William Brown

From Our Teacher: Roger Phipps

This spring three couples with the Mobile Missionary Assistance Program spent three weeks on our campus repairing and improving some of our buildings.

We thank God for their generosity and support in the ministry. We now

have a new fence around

the hog enclosure and good siding on the animal shelter in the pasture. These projects have greatly improved the agriculture facilities at the school. A new pass gate into the pasture makes it easier for

the guys to move between the yard and pasture. The MMAP group repaired our flag pole and organized our library, too. The MMAPers

also fixed some of our spouting on the dorm and repaired some siding there as well. Along with their generosity, they took an afternoon to share their testimonies with our students.

The boys saw and experienced what these folks do with the lives God has given them and heard from them why they minister in this way.

On June 11th, our new dorm father, Sam, and I took the boys canoeing down the Mad River. The boys had a

great time enjoying the woods and wildlife and learning a little bit about how to handle a canoe. Some of the natural highlights were the deer, mink, orioles, and kingfishers. We are thankful that we can enjoy the beauty and diversity of God’s creation. We pray that this experience enhances our students’ awe of God who created and loves them as well.



Ian works in the barn with the horses.



Steve works at his computer.

From Our House Parents: Sam and Teresa Ronicker

“What a difference a day makes” is an old saying that rings true for us as we take on the responsibilities of dorm parents at Operation Rebirth. After more than 28 years in the business world, what a difference it is working in full-time ministry with the boys and their families at O.R. And what a rewarding difference it is!

We are often asked why we left our jobs to work at Operation Rebirth. Teresa says, “One day I was telling a co-worker about the new job my husband and I had taken. Her

response was, “I would never do that—do you like that?!”

It’s amazing to see the work of God in these young men as they grow in the wisdom and



Meet our new dorm parents, Sam and Teresa Ronicker, and their assistant, Charlie.

knowledge of the Lord. And that answers the question of why we serve at Operation Rebirth!

Some other questions we’ve been asked over the past few months: Do we like it? No, we love working with these young men! Is it hard? It’s 100 times harder than we thought it would be but nothing is impossible for God. And, it’s 100 times more rewarding than we expected! These young men are worth the effort!

How do we keep busy? Canoeing, camping, fishing, swimming, church activities, dorm life, gardening, caring for the farm animals and more! We hope you are enjoying your summer as much as we are here at O.R.

From Our Students

My name is Glen and I am 14. I have been at OR for 11 months. I plan to work with computers after I finish college.

Hi, my name is Denny. I am 15 years old and I have been at OR for 2-1/2 years. I will be going home for good on August 1st. One of my goals is to graduate from high school and then go to



Chris works on his project in Wood Shop.

college. I am really interested in history.

My name is Jeremiah and I am 17 years old. I have been at OR for 4 years. My biggest dream is to get married and have a family. I would also like to attend a Pittsburgh Penguins game and meet Sidney Crosby.

My name is Chris and I am 17. I have been at OR for 1-1/2 years. I would someday like to own 100 acres of farm land for crops, steers and chickens. In the meantime, I plan to attend trade school to learn how to do plumbing, electrical work and carpentry.

My name is Steven and I have been at OR for 5 months. I like archery and cleaning the pig pen. My dream is to be a farmer.

My name is Ian and I will be 15 in

September. I’ve only been at OR for about 6 weeks. I am interested in missions, underwater welding and zoology.

New Graduates

Congratulations to our newest graduates: Matt Kumbalek and Robert DeVold. Matt graduated from Bellbrook High School and plans to study mechanical engineering at Linn-Benton College before going on to Oregon State. Robert finished his Army Calvary basic training and is now stationed at Fort Hood, Texas where he is training to be a Calvary scout.



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Needs List:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Lawn mowers | Treated fence boards |
| Yard benches | Sacrete |
| TV, DVD & video players | Generator |
| Wheelbarrows | Corn to put on storage |
| Hay & straw | Used cars in good condition to sell |
| Gas grill | Forced-air kerosene heater |



Chris & Denny work on their sun catchers with Chuck Kimmel.

Operation Rebirth, Inc.

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

Board Members:
 Dave Amlin, Dave Brennan, Kent Eddy, Richard Fegley, Mike Williams

