Community Convocation Series
Sarah Palin, Ben Stein, and President George W. Bush Visit Campus

Patriotic Travel
WWII Veterans Capture Students’ Hearts
Dear Friend:

During the last six years, the programs of The Keeter Center for Character Education at College of the Ozarks have grown significantly. First PLACE! formed to provide a character education initiative in the community, and the Center now is responsible for a myriad of activities. While still working with local school districts to promote character in students, the Center’s staff is also responsible for many additional activities, including community Convocations and Forums with nationally recognized guest speakers such as President George W. Bush on April 7th, the S. Truett Cathy Poverty Summit, the Citizens Abroad student travel program, and the College’s Patriotic Education Travel Program.

While College of the Ozarks has established a clear reputation for our hardworking students in the work education program, we are quickly becoming well-known for our unique dedication to patriotic education. Our patriotic goal is “to encourage an understanding of American heritage, civic responsibilities, love of country, and willingness to defend it.” The Keeter Center for Character Education is assisting in the pursuit of this goal through the Citizenship curriculum and campus activities honoring local Veterans. The most recognizable effort to reach the patriotic goal is seen in the Patriotic Education Travel Program, in which students are paired with WWII Veterans to return to the battlefields of Europe and the Pacific.

The tremendous growth in The Keeter Center for Character Education has prompted a new format for delivering news, resulting in this new, larger version of The Keeter Report. It is my sincere hope that you will take the time to read about the activities that students are participating in through The Keeter Center for Character Education.

Sincerely,

Jerry C. Davis, President
Palin Visits Campus

Governor Sarah Palin was the featured speaker at the Leonard B. and Edith Gittinger Community Convocation at College of the Ozarks on December 2, 2009. Palin was invited to this annual event for notable speakers on campus. The theme of the Convocation was patriotism, citizenship, and civic engagement.

Sarah Palin first made history on December 4, 2006, when she was sworn in as the first female governor of Alaska. In August 2008, Senator John McCain selected Palin to serve as his vice-presidential running mate in his presidential campaign.

Before the Convocation, Palin greeted students, staff, and supporters at a benefit dinner for the Patriotic Education Travel Fund. Following her speech, she attended a gala reception at The Keeter Center with community leaders.

During the Convocation, Palin received the inaugural “Great American Award” presented on behalf of the College by President Jerry C. Davis and Board of Trustees Chairman General Terrence R. Dake, USMC (Ret.). Palin also assisted in presenting a “Great American Award” to seven other honorees. Her speech—delivered to a capacity crowd in Keeter Gymnasium of more than 3,500 students, staff, faculty, and community guests—was an energetic plea for all Americans to “speak up” and become actively involved in local communities. The audience cheered and applauded frequently as Palin told stories of her fight against dishonesty in government, bias in the media, and complacency among the American people.

Governor Palin autographs basketballs with members of the Lady Bobcat basketball team.

Her speech...was an energetic plea for all Americans to “speak up” and become actively involved in local communities.
Great American Awards were presented to the following recipients at the Leonard B. and Edith Gittinger Community Convocation in December 2009:

John Cipolla served in WWII and received three Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star. Private First Class Cipolla was a Rifleman in the 101st Airborne Division, 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment, Company C, during the invasion of Normandy and Holland, the Battle of the Bulge, Battle of Alsace, and central Europe. He was joined at the Convocation by his daughter, Deborah Cipolla. They currently reside in Rochester, New York.

Alvin Henderson was a first scout in the 101st Airborne Division, 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment. He jumped in Normandy and in Holland before walking into a German ambush, where he was captured. Private Henderson spent the remainder of WWII as a prisoner of war. A recipient of the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star, he was joined at the Convocation by his wife, Bonnie. They currently reside in Pickens, South Carolina.

Wilson Colwell was only 14 years old when he left his home in Hazard, Kentucky, and enlisted in the Army at the start of WWII. Private First Class Colwell was a Rifleman and Machine Gunner in the 101st Airborne Division, 502nd Parachute Regiment, and served in all four major battles in the European Theatre during WWII. At 16, he jumped into Normandy on D-Day. Colwell was joined at the Convocation by his wife, Gloria. They currently reside in Denver, Colorado.

Major General Jerry Ragsdale is one of four Generals who attended College of the Ozarks. Ragsdale grew up in Marshfield, Missouri, with humble, Christian parents. He rose to the rank of Major General and also eventually served as the Commander of the Texas Air National Guard. He was joined at the Convocation by his wife, Sue. They currently reside in Dallas, Texas.
Missouri’s only living Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, Colonel Don Ballard, was honored at College of the Ozarks. Ballard attended the benefit dinner and Convocation featuring Governor Sarah Palin in December 2009, and was recognized for his service to our country.

A former member of the United States Navy, Ballard served in Vietnam with the 3rd Marine Division. He received the United States of America’s highest award, the Medal of Honor, for his actions in battle.

Brig. Gen. Tommy Bell was unable to attend the event due to health issues; however, Bell was able to watch the event live via satellite from his home in California. His daughter, Carolyn Bell Phillips, and his grandson, Timothy Phillips, attended the Convocation to receive the award on his behalf. Bell is also one of four Generals to attend College of the Ozarks. He enlisted in the Air Force and saw significant combat in Vietnam, flying 243 missions. Bell is a highly decorated pilot, receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, and other recognitions.

Dr. E. Bruce Heilman grew up on a small farm in Kentucky and enlisted in the Marines. As a young Marine, Dr. Heilman saw combat in Okinawa and on Iwo Jima, the last and bloodiest campaign of the Pacific Theatre in WWII. Later, he served as the longtime president of the University of Richmond, where he currently serves as Chancellor. His life and career reflect the values of College of the Ozarks. He was accompanied at the Convocation by his wife, Betty June. They currently reside in Richmond, Virginia.

Sherry N. Herschend has spent most of her life in Branson, Missouri, rising from humble roots to international influence. Now a successful partner in the Herschend Family Entertainment business, she helps oversee 22 properties in ten states. Overcoming poverty and cancer, Herschend was honored for her dedication to serving others. She was accompanied at the Convocation by her husband, Jack, along with her children and grandchildren, who proudly call Branson home.
In April 2010, College of the Ozarks was proud to host noted author, economist, and actor Ben Stein as its keynote speaker for the Spring Cultural Forum. Stein’s speech was the culmination of a three-day event in which College of the Ozarks students joined guests from the United States military academies and guest institutions in discussions regarding American culture. The Forum focused on three viewpoints of culture: the WWII era, the 1960s, and today’s culture.

Stein, known widely for his performance in the 1980s movie Ferris Bueller’s Day Off, was animated and inspiring in his discussion of American culture and morality. Born in Washington, D.C., Stein is the son of noted economist and writer Herbert Stein. He received a B.A. with honors in Economics from Columbia, where he was active in the Civil Rights Movement to secure voting and other legal rights for African-Americans.

After graduation, Stein served as a poverty lawyer, a trial lawyer in the field of advertising, and a teacher of the political content of film and TV at American University, University of California, Santa Cruz, and Pepperdine. He was a speech writer and lawyer for Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford.

In June 1976, he moved to Hollywood to become a novelist, TV sitcom writer, and movie script writer. He has written and published 30 books, seven fiction and the rest nonfiction.

Stein has been a columnist for The New York Times, a regular commentator on CBS Sunday Morning, a commentator for Yahoo!Finance and FOX News, and a frequent contributor to CNBC. Currently, Mr. Stein lives with his beloved wife of 39 years, Alexandra Denman, in Los Angeles, California.

After a tour of campus, Stein remarked that he “loved every aspect” of the College. “You have the template for how all of American education should be,” he added. “Your institution has got every single detail right – the big things and the little things.” Following his speech, students and guests joined Stein at a reception at The Keeter Center.
“If every American college and university could and would learn from C of O, this nation would last forever.”
—Ben Stein
Over the past 15 years, the list of featured speakers at Convocations and Forums at College of the Ozarks has grown to resemble a “Who’s Who” of government, military, and economic leaders around the world. Through the Leonard B. and Edith Gittinger Community Convocation Series and the Spring Forum, the College has hosted notable speakers each year since 1993, providing educational and inspirational opportunities for students, staff, and faculty. We’re proud of our growing list of national and international leaders who visited southwest Missouri to address our College family.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title/Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colonel Oliver North</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>U.S. Marine Lt. Colonel; political commentator for Fox News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Dan Quayle</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>44th Vice President of the United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Barbara Bush</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>First Lady of United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Ralph Reed, Jr.</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>1st Executive Director of the Christian Coalition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Prime Minister of United Kingdom 1979-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senator Elizabeth Dole</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Sec. of Transportation; Sec. of Labor; Senator (NC); Chairman American Red Cross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. William Bennett</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>U.S. Secretary of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Franklin Graham</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Evangelist and Author</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Terrence Dake</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>General, United States Marine Corps, 27th Assistant Commandant USMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Gerald Ford</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>38th President of the United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President Abdurrahman Wahid</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>4th President of Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Colin Powell</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>U.S. Secretary of State; Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff (Gulf War)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy II</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Former Member of U.S. House of Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambassador Alan Keyes</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Conservative political activist—a U.N. ambassador</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Kenneth Starr</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Solicitor General and Independent Counsel during Clinton presidency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hon. James A. Baker</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>U.S. Secretary of Treasury and Chief of Staff; U.S. Secretary of State and Chief of Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hon. Caspar W. Weinberger</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>15th U.S. Secretary of Defense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Prime Minister of Israel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senator Bob Dole</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>U.S. Senator (Kansas); Majority Leader</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Robert Gates</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>22nd U.S. Secretary of Defense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congressman J. C. Watts</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>U.S. House of Representatives (Oklahoma)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach Mike Krzyzewski</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Head Coach (Men's Basketball) Duke University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Tommy Franks</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Commander, U.S. Central Command (Led attack on Taliban in Afghanistan after 9/11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Tom Brokaw</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Anchor &amp; Managing Editor of NBC Nightly News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senator Zell Miller</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Governor of Georgia, U.S. Senator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Tony Snow</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>White House Press Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Peter Pace</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Marine Four Star General; 16th Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governor Sarah Palin</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Governor of Alaska; Vice Presidential Nominee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Ben Stein</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Author, Economist, and Actor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Patriotic Education Travel Program

One of College of the Ozarks institutional goals is Patriotism. That goal is “to encourage an understanding of American Heritage, civic responsibilities, love of country, and willingness to defend it.” The Keeter Center for Character Education assists in achieving that Patriotic goal through the Patriotic Education Travel Program. Begun in 2009, the program provides an opportunity for students to travel with WWII Veterans back to the places these men fought. Visiting battlefields in Europe and the Pacific, students learn firsthand from WWII Veterans about the circumstances of war. The Patriotic Education Travel Program has now provided once-in-a-lifetime experiences for 95 students and 48 WWII Veterans.

In September 2009, ten students accompanied a group of Veterans to commemoration events in the Netherlands for the 65th anniversary of Operation Market Garden, the largest airborne attack of WWII. Another group of ten students joined Veterans in returning to their battlefields from the Battle of the Bulge in December 2009. In the spring of 2010, 11 additional students hosted a group of Veterans in visiting Iwo Jima and Okinawa. Twenty students accompanied Veterans to Africa, Italy, and Germany in June 2010, while an additional group of 20 students traveled in October 2010, with five Veterans from the 101st Airborne Division. They visited sites in Normandy, Belgium, Germany, and The Netherlands.

“Before our trip with the students to Europe, I was not even aware that the College of the Ozarks existed,” admits WWII Veteran Roy Hanna, 1st Lt., 504th

Special thanks to John Reidy Photography and Alec Vanderboom Photography
Parachute Infantry Regiment. “But after meeting the students on the fun and interesting trip to the Netherlands, I’m proud to be associated, even remotely, with it.” The Patriotic Education Program continues to inspire both Veterans and students.

“These men sacrificed everything for my freedom; these men each have amazing stories locked away in their hearts waiting to be unleashed and heard,” says Toby McDonald, College of the Ozarks student and participant on the 2009 trip to Belgium.

Selection has been completed for students and Veterans who will participate in the 2011 trips. Scheduled travel for 2011 includes:

- March–Victory in the Pacific Tour (ten students will travel with five Veterans to Pearl Harbor, Okinawa, and Hiroshima)
- June–European Tour (18 students will travel with Veterans to sites in Normandy, Belgium, and Germany that were significant in the D-Day invasion of WWII)

How to get involved in the Patriotic Education Travel Program

Students and Veterans participate at no cost to them.

For more information about sponsoring a trip for a student or Veteran in the Patriotic Education Travel Program, contact the Development Office at 417-690-2706.

For information about a Veteran Application to attend one of the trips, contact The Keeter Center for Character Education at 417-690-2242.

A new exhibit in The Keeter Center Gallery on campus features WWII memorabilia, artifacts, and personal items from WWII Veterans. The exhibit also includes photographs from the Patriotic Education Travel Program trips with Veterans. Many College of the Ozarks staff and faculty also contributed photographs to the exhibit honoring their family members who served in WWII.
In November 2010, College of the Ozarks participated in honoring American Veterans by hosting a number of events on campus. The 2010 WWII reunion at The Keeter Center featured a presentation by Pete Niland, whose family story in WWII was the basis for the movie Saving Private Ryan. The event also included a review of the Patriotic Education Travel Program trip to Iwo Jima by student Rebecca Wright and remarks by special guest John Cipolla from the 101st Airborne Division. Each WWII Veteran who attended received a special Patriotic Education Travel Program challenge coin.

In an effort to demonstrate the First PLACE! trait of the month for November (citizenship), the College hosted Lt. General William Boykin, as well as a group of Special Forces A-Team soldiers from Fort Bragg. The hour-long presentations included remarks from Lt. General Boykin as well as demonstrations on Special Forces weapons, training, and assignments. More than 400 local high school students attended the event.

Tucked away in a quiet corner of Missouri, College of the Ozarks isn’t seen by millions of travelers driving their daily commute on a super highway. It’s not positioned in the midst of a large metropolitan area. So how do folks in Oregon, Florida, Vermont, and Wisconsin hear about the College? Simple. They watch Huckabee.

In November 2009, College of the Ozarks student Valerie Wilson joined President Jerry C. Davis on the air with former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee. On his popular show on FOX News Channel, Huckabee reaches viewers across the nation every weekend. Dr. Davis told Governor Huckabee about the Christian education, hard work, and character development from which students at College of the Ozarks benefit. “We think character education is just as important as academic education,” Davis said.

After hearing about College of the Ozarks, the work education program, and how students manage to graduate without debt, Huckabee said he was “very impressed with the spirit of the students and the ‘can do’ attitude” at the College.
Veterans Grove to be Dedicated

As the Patriotic Education Travel Program continues to develop new relationships between students and Veterans, College of the Ozarks is blessed to have 51 WWII Veterans whom we now call our own.

Those participants will be honored in the coming months with a tree planted near the front gates of the College, much like the beautiful forest of trees at Peace Woods in Bastogne. The 4,000 trees making up Peace Woods were planted for the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge. They were dedicated to the American Veterans who fought in the Ardennes, Belgian combatants, and all the civilians and military who died in the winter of 1944-45.

Every Veteran who returned to Bastogne in 1994 chose a tree, which will always bear his name.

After a recent trip to Bastogne, a C of O student envisioned a similar tribute on the C of O campus. He shared his idea with History professor Dr. David Dalton, and a plan was developed to honor those WWII Veterans who have traveled with students to historic WWII battlefields.

Two trees in the Veterans Grove have already been dedicated. The first was dedicated to John Cipolla, 101st Airborne Division, during his recent trip to campus for Veterans Week in November 2010. The second tree was dedicated to Alvin Henderson, also from the 101st Airborne Division, who visited the campus in early December with his wife and daughters.

On the afternoon of April 7, 2011, the entire Veterans Grove will be dedicated during a ceremony on the lawn of the Alumni Center at College of the Ozarks. All Veterans and students who have participated in Patriotic Travel are invited to attend, as well as members of the community.

Later in the month on April 18, The College will provide a Patriotic Convocation program with remarks from two student participants and two Veteran participants. The students will receive information about applying for future trips at that time.

Spring 2011 Leadership and Character Forum

The Keeter Center for Character Education is honored to announce the keynote speaker for the 2011 Spring Leadership and Character Forum will be President George W. Bush.

President Bush will address students, staff, faculty, and community members at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 7, 2011, at the Keeter Gymnasium on the campus of College of the Ozarks.
First PLACE! Program Continues to Impact Area Schools

After five years in the area schools, the First PLACE! program continues to affect students and staff as the lessons of good character are stressed in a variety of ways. During the recent holiday season, Branson Junior High School students packaged thousands of Christmas cookies for soldiers overseas. The project was a result of a young student’s actions at Branson Junior High School.

In late 2009, seventh grader Kylie Hughes put her citizenship to work and launched a new program that reminded her community of how important it is to do your part in promoting citizenship. Hughes was deeply moved when her cousin, PFC Tyler Juden, was killed in action in Afghanistan while serving with the U.S. 82nd Airborne Division. To honor his sacrifice, she created a new program called “The Tyler Project,” designed to honor her cousin’s memory and the service of men and women in uniform everywhere. The project established a student club that discusses current world events, focusing special attention on the war in Afghanistan and Iraq, showing patriotic support of our troops, and gathering supplies as a school community to ship care packages to soldiers overseas.

“Last year, we sent 1,600 Christmas cookies and they arrived on Christmas Eve,” said Hughes. “It was really special.” Many of the cookies went to soldiers who had been serving alongside Juden. Following the Christmas Eve cookie delivery, Hughes said “The Tyler Project” received 73 letters from Afghanistan.

“The letters were mostly thank-yous and telling us how special they made them feel and some talked about Tyler,” the 13-year-old Branson student said.

This year students have prepared packages that include everything from boxes of hot cocoa to warm socks, hand warmers to personal hygiene items. Branson Junior High School principal Bryan Bronn saw the project as an opportunity to highlight the good character that the seventh grader was demonstrating. “We are so proud of her initiative to create this honoring project and of her dedication to see it through,” Bronn said.

Branson Elementary West Named a Missouri School of Character...again

Congratulations to Branson Elementary West for their recognition as a Missouri School of Character in 2010 and 2011. Elementary West principal Mike Dawson accepted the award at a banquet on May 13, 2010, in St. Louis. Missouri is among 28 states to conduct the State Schools of Character Award program. He will return in May again this year.

A team of Elementary West teachers completed the first application in fall 2009. Character representatives made a site visit to nine schools named as finalists. The recognition program is designed to identify exemplary Missouri schools and districts to serve as models for others. It also helps schools and districts improve their efforts in effective character education. The Missouri distinction will allow Elementary West to advance to national competition. Congratulations to all the staff at Elementary West for their recognition in 2010 and 2011!

In addition, Mike Dawson, principal at Branson Elementary West, was named Missouri’s National Distinguished Principal for 2010. Dawson represented Missouri in the National Distinguished Elementary Principals Conference held in Washington, D.C. in November 2010.

Davis Joins First PLACE! Staff

In late fall 2009, Missouri Governor Jay Nixon made sweeping cuts to the Missouri state budget, including funding for CHARACTERplus™, a statewide program to implement character education in Missouri schools. The result was a wave of staff layoffs as the statewide character education initiative fell to the political and economic recession. As a result, Joan Davis, former state coordinator of CHARACTERplus™, is now officially part of The Keeter Center for Character Education’s First PLACE! initiative. Davis was instrumental in serving as a resource for the implementation of First PLACE! in Stone and Taney Counties, and has been an invaluable help to numerous First PLACE! partners over the past few years. Davis will be working 15 hours a week to serve the area schools and community while providing workshops as well.
Service Learning Workshop

In cooperation with First PLACE! and The Keeter Center for Character Education, more than 120 students and teachers from 20 area schools attended the Service Learning Workshop on November 30, 2010, at The Keeter Center. Featured speaker Cathryn Berger Kaye, M.A., led the highly interactive session. The program was designed to help educators weave together theory and practice to advance academics and civic engagement.

“Service Learning is a tool that incorporates all the First PLACE! character traits our area schools’ students are learning and combines the academic components with service to our community,” said Sue Head, Executive Director of The Keeter Center for Character Education.

Participants of the workshop moved step-by-step through the process of service learning, including Getting Started, Entry Points, Standards and Essential Elements, The Five Stages of Service Learning, and Curricular Connections.

Kaye, a former classroom teacher, is president of CBK Associates -- International Education Consultants. She is known for her program development, workshops, and keynotes for K-12 settings and her work with university faculty and youth serving organizations. Kaye’s program “Strategies for Success with Literacy: A Learning Curriculum that Serves” has been implemented as part of the Los Angeles Unified School District dropout prevention plan and in Miami-Dade Schools for character development reaching over 40,000 students.

S. Truett Cathy Poverty Summit

The Keeter Center for Character Education hosted the 4th annual S. Truett Cathy Poverty Summit in October 2010, inviting students, faculty, and the community to find solutions for poverty.

Mr. S. Truett Cathy, founder and chairman of Chick-fil-A, opened this year’s Poverty Summit with a challenge to students to overcome any obstacles that they may face. He encouraged them to live life with passion, excellence, and goodwill. And, as a survivor of the Great Depression who worked his way to a better life, he didn’t try to sugar coat anything. He quoted Paul Harvey: “The world is not fair. So, get used to it.”

One of the 2010 Poverty Summit keynote speakers, Terri Dreussi Smith, co-wrote a book called Bridges Out of Poverty that addresses how to understand the hidden rules of poverty. Smith is passionate about equipping people in all walks of life to understand each other's needs and expectations. With a better understanding of each other, the poor are able to have a voice in community-driven solutions for their needs, thereby making proposed solutions much more successful.

Dr. Rita Pierson, a 2010 Poverty Summit keynote speaker, addressed issues of poverty as they relate to the educational system in our community. More than 100 local teachers and education students focused on teaching practices aimed at better reaching the “under-resourced” students in area schools.

“Dr. Pierson is so informational about common sense, as well as tried and true strategies in helping our students,” said one workshop participant. “There were teachers from all teaching levels at the workshop, and all were garnering helpful, worthy information.”

by Stephanie Ebling, Senior
The purpose is to provide programs and activities which enhance the development of character and good citizenship. In so doing, the Center reflects the principle upon which College of the Ozarks was established: that character in young people is best developed from an education which includes the head, the heart and the hands.

- To reflect the College’s five-fold mission stressing academic, Christian, vocational, cultural and patriotic growth, and to provide society with productive, responsible citizens.
- To promote basic Judeo-Christian values such as honesty, respect for and service to others, good citizenship, generosity, honor, courage, wise use of time and talents, and the work ethic.
- To serve as a resource for administrators, teachers, and parents as they seek to fulfill their responsibilities as partners in the character-building process.
- To publicize information on character education.
- To serve as model for those throughout the country who have the desire to establish similar centers or programs.

The Keeter Report is a semi-annual publication that features articles about programs sponsored by the Center that are having significant impact on the development of good character and citizenship of the students at the College. Also included are articles about well-known speakers who visit College of the Ozarks and announcements about upcoming speakers.

To learn more about The Keeter Center for Character Education or to sign up for The Keeter Report at no charge, please visit www.keetercenter.edu.