

Ozark Visitor



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College of the Ozarks... "Hard Work U.®"

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Point Lookout, Missouri 65726



Debt-Free, Bright Futures

PROMISES TO KEEP

Summer 2005



Jerry C. Davis, President

With graduation, Honor America (the College's Independence Day celebration), and the summer work program, the past few months have proven productive here at Hard Work U.

The students, faculty, and staff stay busy carrying out the College's mission. One goal of the five-fold mission is to promote patriotism, and each year we find

ways to honor our nation, its leaders, and the military. From remembering our veterans, to welcoming special speakers such as General Tommy Franks, College of the Ozarks strives to encourage patriotism in its students; they delight in the opportunity, because many have family members who are giving or have given the ultimate sacrifice.

We must not forget the price paid for our freedom or that the reason for the Fourth of July is to honor those individuals and celebrate our independence. That is why each year the College holds an Honor America celebration. It is a time to get together and enjoy fellowship and entertainment, as well as a time to reflect on the sacrifices which have afforded us sovereignty.

This year the College held Honor America on June 26 and welcomed Lieutenant Colonel Don Koonce to speak on freedom, patriotism, and what the nation's foundational documents mean to a soldier. His thoughts on these topics were memorable, as he reminded the audience that God is mentioned in every historical document. To read more about how the College honored America at this year's celebration turn to page 8.

The College then focused on the rest of the summer's events, including Camp Lookout—ten week-long sessions of camp offered to children from the Ozark Mountain region who cannot afford the cost of summer camp. You may read more about this special program on page 12. Interestingly, the camp counselors are C of O students participating in the summer work program.

The College had an impressive 261 students graduate

in May. One of the graduates, Matt Sherrill, has gained state-wide recognition for a chemistry project that began as a childhood hobby. Not only did he receive acknowledgement for his achievement, but his interest in chemistry also earned him a full-ride scholarship to graduate school. His interesting story is featured on page 10.

Another alumnus, Director of the Department of Natural Resources for the State of Missouri Doyle Childers, also has an intriguing story. He is Vice-Chair of the College of the Ozarks Board of Trustees, and you can find out more about him on page 3.

With summer activities in full swing at the College, we are sure to stay busy. I invite you to visit the campus.

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as The School of the Ozarks*

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ON THE COVER:

2005 College of the Ozarks graduates Stefanie Vance and Raymond Fryman start off debt free toward a bright future.

Picture by Natalie Cowdrey Photography

C of O ALUMNUS DOYLE CHILDERS

Board of Trustees Vice-Chair

By Elizabeth Andrews

A student at College of the Ozarks more than 30 years ago, Doyle Childers now fills the role as C of O's Board of Trustees vice-chair and credits the College as a major landmark in his personal growth. He was first elected Vice-Chairman in the spring of 2001 and re-elected as the Vice-Chairman in the spring of 2004. He has served on the Board for six years.

In addition to serving the College, Childers serves the state of Missouri, as well. In January 2005, he was appointed as the Director of the Department of Natural Resources. Before that, he held office as a state legislator for more than 20 years. How did this farm boy and C of O alum come to hold a state office in Jefferson City?

Childers, who is married to wife Sue and resides in Reeds Spring, was born November 25, 1944, near Ironton, Missouri, on the family farm. Growing up in one of the rural parts of Iron County provided him a unique perspective. "During my first year of school, I remember kerosene lamps, which were hung on chains from the ceiling of the little, one-room country school I attended," said Childers.

"We did our farming with teams, and my family had a small Class C dairy, so most of my farm chores involved feeding the horses and cattle, fixing fences, and clearing brush. And, because we heated with wood, cutting firewood was a constant activity," he added.

But it was an Arcadia Valley High School counselor that steered this farm boy to The School of the Ozarks, which Childers admits he would not have discovered without the counselor's aid. "He even went the extra mile to take me to visit the campus, which was a 200-mile trip each way," explained Childers.



Doyle Childers

"Without his help, I might never have heard of The School of the Ozarks."

After finishing high school at Arcadia Valley, Childers received an associate degree from The School of the Ozarks in 1964. He then went on to complete his bachelor of science in biology at School of the Ozarks in 1972.

Childers did graduate work at Southwest Missouri State University. He also served more than four years in the U.S. Peace Corps in Central America. "I was assigned to Costa Rica, and there I was given an opportunity to develop leadership and empathy with other cultures and individuals," he said. "For the first two years, I primarily helped build water systems, bridges, schools, etc., and taught basic construction and agriculture classes."

After returning from his work in Costa Rica, Childers taught chemistry and physics for ten years at Reeds Spring High School, which he credits to preparing him for his career dealing with people as a legislator.

Childers served southwest Missourians for 22 years as legislator.

He served the 132nd and the 141st District in the Missouri House of Representatives for seven consecutive terms (1982 through 1996) and the 29th District in the Missouri State Senate for eight years (1997 through 2004). During his tenure as Senator, he worked on committees such as Agriculture, Conservation, Parks, and Tourism; Labor and Industrial Relations; and Aging, Families, and Mental Health.

Although he said it is difficult to single out any one area which was most rewarding serving as Senator, he did say the ability to solve problems and address common needs of the communities he represented was very satisfying.

Now, as Director of DNR, Childers is still responsible for tackling and solving the problems and needs of communities, but on a broader scale. "The broad spectrum of responsibilities assigned to the Department automatically creates unusual circumstances, and the very nature of these responsibilities is often controversial," said Childers.

Amidst all his duties as a state official, he makes time for his alma mater, and his dedication and service to the College has not gone unnoticed. "For over 40 years, Doyle Childers has been a steadfast supporter of College of the Ozarks," said Helen Youngblood, director of alumni affairs. "As a student, alumnus, and trustee his dedicated commitment to the mission of the institution is an exemplary model for all our students and alumni."

As Board of Trustees Vice-Chair, he takes his role very serious, along with his colleagues. "I believe the Board has evolved over the 40 years that I have observed into a very professional organization which strives to follow the philosophy of the Col-

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DEVELOPMENT NOTES

Planning Your Financial Goals



Rodney Arnold
Dean of Development

Most of us spend a lifetime working toward our financial goals. Whether it is retiring to sunny Florida and strolling the beaches everyday or traveling overseas and visiting countries you've waited a lifetime to tour, retirement goals are made to enjoy. The best laid plans, however, may not be fully realized if you are not taking advantage of all available financial planning techniques.

You and your family may not receive the full benefit of your lifetime of work.

I encourage you to evaluate your finances from three interrelated viewpoints so that you can determine if you're taking advantage of the financial planning tech-

niques available. The viewpoints are from (1) your present income and taxes, (2) your retirement income and taxes, and (3) your estate distribution and taxes.

As your income has grown through the years, so has the amount of income taxes you pay at the federal and

"With the increases in taxes, a common question asked is how do I combat them?"

state level. With the increases in taxes, a common question asked is how do I combat them?

Most techniques used to reduce income taxes are to defer income until you retire. For most people, their income levels drop to a lower tax bracket at retirement, thus saving income that would have been otherwise paid in taxes. These techniques make sense because their objective is to help you maintain your current lifestyle once you retire. With these techniques, your accountant and attorney earn their pay in assessing and recommending which financial planning tool can best meet your financial goals.

Should you be interested in receiving our complimentary booklet that may aid you in planning your finances, please complete and return the request form.

Request Form for Financial Planning

- Please send me your booklet on useful financial planning techniques.
- Please call me. I have a question about my finances. The best time to call is _____
- I am considering College of the Ozarks as a beneficiary to my estate plan. Please send me information on how to do so.
- I have named College of the Ozarks as a beneficiary to my estate plan.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Please complete and mail to:
Rodney Arnold, Development Office
College of the Ozarks
PO Box 17
Point Lookout, MO 65726

DOYLE CHILDERS

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lege of the Ozarks as expressed in its Charter, while meeting the academic requirements of our global economy," said Childers.

Childers said one of his personal goals on the Board is to emphasize more long-term planning, while developing more depth in the college administration.

Would you like to receive *The Ozark Visitor* by way of email rather than regular print? Please let us know by sending an email message to development@cofo.edu requesting so. We hope sending this newsletter by email will be more convenient for you and more cost effective for us.

Please know that your email address will NOT be distributed to others, and *The Ozark Visitor* will be the only electronic correspondence you'll receive from College of the Ozarks.

97TH COMMENCEMENT

261 C of O Graduates

By Elizabeth Andrews

Rainy weather did not dampen the moods of 261 College of the Ozarks graduates or the thousands of family members and friends on Sunday, May 8. On Mother's Day the College held its 97th baccalaureate and commencement ceremonies in the Keeter Gymnasium. And, although Mother Nature turned on the rain several times throughout the day, the grads didn't seem to mind.



Graduate Sara Cantrell and parents Tony and Wanda enjoy the day's events.

Photos by Shann Swift Photography

The baccalaureate service proved enlightening as alumnus Ben Lairamore (class 2002) gave the sermon on God's redeeming love. Currently, Lairamore ministers at an inner-city church in downtown Louisville, Kentucky. He is helping to revive this church which had nearly dwindled out of existence. Lairamore is pursuing his Master of Divinity in Pastoral Care at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

He used Ezekiel's vision of the valley full of bones, which arose after God breathed His breath of life in them. Just as in Ezekiel's vision when the tribe of Israel was restored, so is the magnificence of God's redemption for us.

With that analogy, he charged the graduates with striving to be



C of O alumnus Ben Lairamore delivers the baccalaureate service to the graduates.

examples of our Creator's awesome redeeming love and reminded them that each had a duty respective to their chosen fields. "If you have studied agriculture, know that you have been ordained by God to subdue the land, be a steward over it, and bless others with your abundance. If you teach science, teach your pupils that we have an intelligent God who has perfectly designed our earth."

Later in the afternoon, the graduates led by faculty and administrators joined a processional in the gym for the commencement ceremony. In addition to awarding degrees, the College recognized several faculty. Professor of Library Science and Library Director Nancy Anderson, a 38-year C of O employee, and Associate Professor of Music Mary Elizabeth Bradley, a 36-year C of O employee, was granted emeritus status.

Dean of the College Marilyn L. Graves presented three awards to distinguished faculty. Associate Professor of Biology Jeff Rettig received the "Eugene Charles Wittick Teaching Excellence Award." Dr. Rettig has worked for the College of the Ozarks since 1991. The "Dr. Letton Wittick Professional Achievement Award"

was presented to Director of ROTC Colonel Gary Herchenroeder, who has been with the College since 1996. Assistant Professor of Physical Education Donald Hoeck was awarded the "Governor's Teaching Award of Excellence." Hoeck has taught at C of O since 1998.

Following the presentation of awards, Colonel Don McMahon, commander of the 1107th AVCRAD and associate professor of psychology, along with ROTC Director Colonel Herchenroeder commissioned graduate Mark Walden as a Second Lieutenant into the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Lt. Walden's mother and father pinned his officer bars onto his uniform to complete the commissioning. Chris Gilmer and Tom Resz, both graduating in absentia because of military service, also received commissioning as Second Lieutenants.

The key-note speaker for the commencement was Director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Doyle Childers, who also serves as vice-chairman of the College of the Ozarks Board of Trustees.

Childers offered the graduates some prudential wisdom as he used the analogy of life as a river. He

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Long-time faculty members Nancy Anderson and Mary Elizabeth Bradley receive emeritus status from the College.

A DAY IN DEUTSCHLAND

C of O Handbells and Chorale go to Europe

By Tamra Jane Corbin

A group of College of the Ozarks students and sponsors recently had an opportunity to learn first-hand what a day in Deutschland (Germany) is like. For many students, it was their first time in an airplane or their first trip overseas; for others it was their last memory as a student at C of O.

The C of O Chorale and Handbell Choir traveled to Europe in May to participate in the 2005 American Celebration of Music in Germany and give a concert tour in Holland. The ten-day trip included performances throughout Germany and Holland and gave students, faculty, and staff members a chance to get to know each other outside of everyday campus life.

"My job doesn't involve very much interaction with students, so I really enjoyed getting acquainted with many students as we spent ten days together," said Sam Ketcher, controller in the Business office at C of O. "It was enjoyable to see the talents and interests of our students, and I hope they got to see a different side of us as well."

After months of preparation and anticipation, students and sponsors



The C of O group stands in front of the Cologne Cathedral in Germany. The Cathedral is one of the tallest structures in the world.

enjoyed tours of famous castles, a river cruise on the Rhine, and much more while attending rehearsals and performing concerts.

"I am thankful to have been a part of this once-in-a-lifetime experience," said Michael Wilson, a junior at C of O. "It was an honor to be able to share our music with others and a great opportunity to learn about other cultures."

The group arrived in Munich,

Germany, Thursday, May 11, where they met their tour manager, Ivana, and bus driver, Adi.

It didn't take long for the students and sponsors to fall in love with Ivana and Adi while they led the group on an "Appetizer Tour" of Germany and The Netherlands. "Ivana and Adi were so endearing and full of information," said Medda Paden, a C of O sophomore who went on the trip.

The first day in Munich included a trip to the Nymphenburg Palace and Dachau. Nymphenburg Palace was built by Elector Ferdinand Maria as a gift to his wife to celebrate the birth of his son and heir. It became a favorite summer residence for many Bavarian rulers.

Dachau, a preserved Nazi concentration camp, proved to be an emotional experience for many members of the group. Dachau was one of the first concentration camps in Germany, and records show that 30,000 were killed in the camp. Moreover, thousands died due to the horrible conditions the prisoners were forced to live in.



The Wieskirche, or the "Church in the Meadow," was the site of the Chorale and Handbell Choir's first concert in Germany.

A tour through the Bavarian Alps included visits to the Neuschwanstein Castle, Wieskirche, and Oberammergau.

The breathtaking Neuschwanstein Castle was a familiar looking sight to the C of O group, because Walt Disney's Cinderella's Castle was inspired by Neuschwanstein. The "Mad King" Ludwig II, who built the castle in the 1800s loved swans, so the castle was filled with statues and pictures of swans. He even named the castle after this animal. The word Neuschwanstein means "New Swan Stone."

The charming Wieskirche, the Church in the Meadow, was the site of C of O's first concert in Germany. This elaborate church is where the famous statue of the Scourged Savior lies.

The Chorale and Handbell Choir were delighted when they received great applause and a standing ovation after their concert at the St. Kilian Church in Schillingfuerst, Germany. They learned much about German hospitality and how to clap in the unique European style. The students learned that by clapping in rhythm their hosts were giving them more than just a polite compliment; they were telling how much they respected the students and their music.

"We knew that they really appreciated our music and that they really enjoyed having us there," said Angela Spencer, a member of the Chorale.

The group also visited Rothenburg, Cologne, and Heidelberg, Germany.



From left: Tamra Corbin, Casey Chambers, Julie Silengo, Janelle Silengo, Cody Boggs, and LeAnne Rakes ride bikes on the island. Bicycles are a main source of transportation in Holland and a huge part of Dutch life.



The Neuschwanstein Castle is located near Alpsee Lake and the Alps in the Bavarian region of Germany. This castle served as inspiration for Walt Disney's Cinderella Castle.

"The part of the trip that stood out to me most was getting to see and visit the castles in Germany, especially Neuschwanstein in the Alps. I also really enjoyed the short cruise we took on the Rhine River, where we got to see several more castles," said Ketcher.

In The Netherlands, The Chorale and Handbell Choir had the opportunity to perform in a church where the College's first exchange student attends. They also had the opportunity to perform a concert and host a clinic at an elementary school where she works.

"The most rewarding part of the day was seeing the joy and delight on the children's faces as they were introduced to a new kind of music," said LeAnne Rakes, handbell choir member. "It was wonderful to be able to share our talent with an audience of kids who were so eager to learn about this part of our culture."

The students particularly enjoyed a half-day excursion to Schiermonnikoog, an island off the coast of The Netherlands in the North Sea.

Many C of O group members rented bicycles, while some chose to walk around the island, to explore the beaches, the village, and the beautiful countryside.

"The Island was one of the greatest parts of the trip for me because we were allowed the most free time and the best chance to stretch our legs," said Paden. "I felt I got a better impression of Dutch life on this visit than on any other part of the trip."

The travelers' final day in Europe was spent touring Amsterdam. Their last night in Europe was filled with laughter as groups and individuals performed skits, read poems, and sang songs about the journey. Some tears were even shed as seniors said their last goodbyes, and everyone prepared for the trip back home.

HONOR AMERICA

16th Annual Celebration

By Tamra Jane Corbin

Visitors to College of the Ozarks know when they hear the “Stars and Stripes Forever” and see the gates around Lake Honor draped in red, white, and blue, that it’s time to honor America. More than 2,000 people gathered on the C of O campus June 26, for the sixteenth annual Honor America celebration at the College.

This C of O tradition began as a way for the College to share with the community its strong sense of patriotism and pride for our country and the men and women who serve it.

“In carrying out its mission, the College has five goals—one of which is patriotism,” says C of O President Jerry C. Davis. “In order to honor its patriotic commitment, the College has sponsored an Honor America celebration each year. This is the sixteenth year for the Honor America celebration, which has become a tradition here at ‘Hard Work U.’”

Children enjoyed many free activities including face painting, balloon animals, a play dough table, bubble pools, and much more while others listened to the live entertainment.

To complement the event, The Keeter Center hosted an All-American Barbecue for those who wanted to experience watching the fireworks from the Center's balcony.



Uncle Sam gives out flags to the crowd.

This year, the College welcomed back the Southwynns Bluegrass Band and Cedric Benoit and the Cajun Connection. The Southwynns are particularly dear to the College because Casey Grimes, a member of Southwynns, is a 2005 graduate of C of O. The Southwynns have performed in the Ozarks for more than six years. Cedric Benoit and the Cajun Connection have performed in the Branson area for the past 19 years.

The College also welcomed The Davis Sisters who moved to Branson in 1992 to sing with Johnny Cash. Since then, they have pursued music careers both in Nashville and Branson. Most recently, the trio portrayed the Andrews Sisters at Legends in Concert in Branson.

Besides musical entertainment and games, the College took special time to honor the military. Prior to the patriotic concert, Lieutenant Colonel Don Koonce spoke to the audience about freedom, patriotism, and what the nation’s foundational documents mean to a soldier. His words proved especially stirring as he reminded the audience that our forefathers included God in all the nation’s documents.



The 399th Army Band performs the "Star Spangled Banner" while the Boy Scouts post the flag.





The large crowd gathered around Lake Honor to listen to live entertainment and watch the spectacular fireworks display.

Following Lt. Col. Koonce, the 399th Army Band delighted the audience with a variety of selections and concluded with the firing of a canon. This was the eleventh year for the Army Band to perform the patriotic concert at Honor America.

This C of O tradition always offers a truly grand finale, and the night ended with a magnificent fireworks display that filled the sky. If you missed this year's Independence Day event, you may want to attend next year's Honor America scheduled for June 25, 2006.



Four-year-old Isabella Andrews plays with bubbles at Honor America. The bubble pools were just one of many children's games at Honor America.



Cedric Benoit and the Cajun Connection's Cajun/Zydeco music and dancing entertained the audience.

Photos by Shann Swift Photography

A WINNING HOBBY

Rocket Fuel for Fun

By Elizabeth Andrews

When he was just a little boy, he began a hobby that would later gain him state-wide recognition and a beginning to a career in chemistry.

Just this spring before his graduation, College of the Ozarks chemistry major Matt Sherrill won first place in the Chemistry Division after giving an oral presentation entitled "Heat Energy and Mass Balance Determination for the Combustion of Potassium Nitrate Based Model Rocket Fuels," to the Missouri Academy of Sciences Collegiate Chemistry Division. The meeting was held Friday, April 15, 2005, at Lincoln University in Jefferson City.

For most, winning is the ultimate goal when entering a competition such as the one held at Lincoln, but that wasn't the case with Sherrill. "My goal for participating in the competition was not to win, although that was a nice bonus," says Sherrill. "I was simply looking for a place to give a practice oral presentation over research I had been conducting at C of O to a group of scientists and students from other schools."



Sherrill takes a final look at his rocket before take off.

The project started as a laboratory class exercise in Physical Chemistry I during the fall 2004 semester. Fellow students Rianne Holden and Ryan Siebert, along with Sherrill, worked under the supervision of Dr. Kenny Garrison, C of O assistant professor of chemistry, to determine energy content of various rocket fuels.

Sherrill continued the project on

his own time during the spring and was able to measure the composition of gaseous products of the combustion of rocket fuel. In addition, he built several small rocket motors and tested the force of these.

Dr. Jerry Easdon, one of Sherrill's chemistry professors explains that he had uncanny ability to use scientific equipment and design experiments to research new ideas. "It was a pleasure to see Matt develop during his four years at College of the Ozarks," said Dr. Easdon. "He gained scientific skills, as well as a hard work attitude which gave him the ability to excel in his achievements."

This particular subject happened to be a long-time hobby of Sherrill, who had worked on model rockets since he was a small boy. "This is something that has always been one of my interests," says Sherrill, "and chemistry has allowed me to actually study components of fuel and its reactions."

He described how his interest first was peaked by saying, "I got started in this because of my dad. When we lived in Africa and had no access to any model rocket engines or fuel, we made our own."

Because of his intrigue with toy rockets and rocket fuel, Sherrill found fascination in a subject that he would later pursue as a career. Sherrill has earned a full scholarship to the University of Kansas graduate school where he can continue studying chemistry. He obtained the invitation to study at KU as a result of two summer internships there.

As a mentor, one always wants to witness his or her students achieve great things, and with no exception, Dr. Easdon said he looks forward to hearing about Sherrill's future success.

This past summer, Sherrill has spent overseas in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, working with the University



Lift off; the rocket excels off the ground up into the air.



Although his project seems simple and fun, Sherrill presents the complex formulas behind it to professionals in the field.

of Dar es Salaam, which is the leading university there. He went to Tanzania as part of Minorities in Research Training program sponsored by Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia, but will return to the States to start graduate school early this fall.

This budding chemist has not fully decided what area in his field on which to focus at KU, but has tentative plans set for after graduation. "After I finish the graduate program, I would like to go into teaching. I am not sure where I would like to teach, but I have been thinking about teaching chemistry at one of the universities in Tanzania. At this point, everything is all up in the air, and I am waiting to find out what God wants me to do."

"I want to say thanks to Drs. Easdon and Garrison for all their help in getting me through the classes at C of O and allowing me to use the lab facilities to work on various projects," says Sherrill. "I know that I would not be headed off to grad school without their help."

LEADING THE WAY

Emphasizing Character County-wide

Representatives from The Keeter Center for Character Education, along with Taney County schools and community leaders, comprised a 59-person coalition that traveled to St. Louis on Thursday, July 14, to attend the CHARACTERplus® 11th Annual Character Education Conference. Nine of the participants presented a panel discussion at the conference on the First PLACE (Partners Linking Arms for Character Education) initiative in Taney County.

The College's Keeter Center for Character Education joined with Taney County schools and community leaders last spring to plan and implement a county-wide character education effort.

Executive Director of The Keeter Center for Character Education Sue Head says, "The Keeter Center for Character Education is delighted to link arms with Taney County in this effort. To the Center's knowledge, this is the first comprehensive county-wide character education initiative state-wide." CHARACTERplus has worked with hundreds of communities in the state, but it has never seen an entire county come together to implement a unified character education effort.

One of the presenters, Kirbyville teacher Kerry Thompson, says, "As a partner school, we are excited about getting our community and the entire county on the same page."

Rick Tallon of Branson Dental Center also served on the panel discussing the importance of community involvement in the initiative. "As a business owner and



resident, I am thrilled to see a true partnership among all the segments of our county in this worthwhile effort."

The Conference was held July 15-16, in St. Louis and featured nationally-recognized speakers in the growing field of character education. Among the participants and speakers was Joan Davis, a resident of Branson, who is the CHARACTERplus Missouri Character Education Project Coordinator.

Davis has assisted The Keeter Center for Character Education at College of the Ozarks with training and implementation of the character education process in the Taney County public schools. "As a resident of Taney County, it is such an honor to play a dual role in this initiative as state coordinator and as a community member," Davis says.

First PLACE is still recruiting partners to join in the effort. For more information, contact The Keeter Center for Character Education at 417-334-6411 ext. 4242 or visit www.keetercenter.edu.

CAMP LOOKOUT

Teaching Selflessness through Service

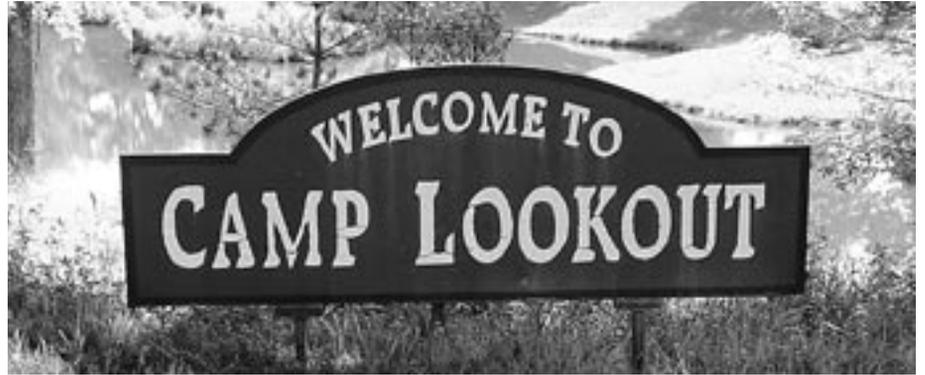
By Katherine Aguayo

Every summer, many students at College of the Ozarks work at Camp Lookout through the Bonner Community Service program. Serving as counselors and staff members at the camp provides the students with room and board for the summer, as well as the fall and spring semesters.

The counselors are properly trained and must earn American First Aid and CPR certification. They even learn how to properly handle the American flag so they can teach the children.

Camp Lookout began in the late 70s when 25 C of O students volunteered to each host a child in their dorm rooms for one week. The children received a free camp experience as they played in the gym, visited the Ralph Foster Museum, ate in the cafeteria, and had a barbecue.

In 1992, Andy Williams hosted a benefit to help establish a campsite on the College of the Ozarks cam-



The Camp Lookout site was established in the '90s. The sign at the entrance welcomes about 475 campers every summer.

pus; he donated more than \$40,000 for the cause. A local resort donated all of the cabins except two, which Elizabeth Dole donated after speaking at C of O in 1997. That same year, Camp Lookout became a full-fledged summer workstation and in 2001, expanded to accommodate around 475 campers each summer.

Camp Lookout provides a Christian camp experience for eight to 12-year-olds who otherwise cannot afford to go to camp. Each child is

given shampoo, soap, a toothbrush, toothpaste, a lanyard, a camp t-shirt, and if they do not have one, a Bible. Camp Lookout offers ten, one-week camps throughout the summer.

The campers spend their week eating in the cafeteria, playing games, swimming in the College pool, and participating in devotions. They also spend one day at the local theme park, Silver Dollar City. Through this camp experience and Christian lessons and activities throughout the week, the counselors teach the campers selflessness through service.

The counselors, C of O students who work in Bonner Community Service, serve as role models throughout the time and teach the campers the value of serving others. As part of the camp, the children must do a community service project.

The ten to 12-year-old campers go to a local park for a couple of hours and serve the community by cleaning the area. The eight to ten-year-old campers participate in making gifts for Operation Christmas Child, a ministry that sends shoeboxes full of gifts to impoverished children around the world. The campers take time out of their busy camp schedule to serve children less fortunate than themselves.

The younger campers make pony bead leather bracelets to put in the shoeboxes. The gifts have meaning,



Counselors Emma Murphy (left) and LeAnne Rakes (right) with their cabin of eight to ten-year-old girls. Pictures by Katherine Aguayo



Counselor Jon Phinney helps tie a bracelet around a young camper's wrist.

as each bead is a different color and represents a different Christian symbol. As they assemble the bracelets, the campers learn that the black bead represents the sin in our lives, the red represents the blood that Jesus shed, the white represents how we are washed white as snow, the green represents our spiritual growth, and the gold represents heaven.

The counselors teach the kids about Operation Christmas Child. Counselor Heather Morris, a senior at C of O, explains to the campers how one bracelet will go in every shoebox, and that each shoebox will not only contain gifts and necessities but will also contain a pamphlet about Christianity and God's love that is printed in the child's language. In order to stress the importance of their service, Emma Murphy, a sophomore at C of O, informed her cabin of girls that the shoeboxes might be the first gifts the children will ever receive.

Besides learning a valuable lesson, the kids understand the cause and have a good time making bracelets.

Nine-year-old Wiley Woodward, from Crane also enjoyed the bracelet project. "I think it's really good because some kids have never had these things before."

The community service project at Camp Lookout is an opportunity to teach the campers that service and selflessness is important. Counselor Jon Phinney said he believes that this type of experience is necessary for the young campers. "We want them to go out and realize that it's not all about them. Hopefully they'll learn, in a small way, how to be the hands and feet of Jesus."



Wiley Woodward proudly displays the bracelet he made for Operation Christmas Child.

A "Best Value" College

College of the Ozarks is one of the nation's "best value" undergraduate institutions according to The Princeton Review. The New York-based education services company chose College of the Ozarks as one of 81 schools it recommends in the new 2006 edition of its book, *America's Best Value Colleges*.

The book is a guide to colleges with outstanding academics, generous financial aid packages and relatively low costs. It includes public and private colleges and universities in 35 states.

The Princeton Review selected the schools for the book based on data the company obtained from administrators at more than 350 colleges and surveys of students who attend them.

Says Robert Franek, V.P.-Publishing, The Princeton Review, "We used over 30 factors to rate the colleges in four categories: Academics, Tuition GPA (the sticker price minus average amount students receive in scholarships and grants), Financial Aid (how well colleges meet students' financial need), and Student Borrowing. Bot-

tom line: the 81 schools that met our criteria for this book are all great college education deals."

America's Best Value Colleges has a three-page profile on College of the Ozarks, along with advice about applying for admission and financial aid.

It is one of nearly 200 Princeton Review books published by Random House in a line that includes the annual *Best 357 Colleges* and *Paying for College Without Going Broke*.



Memorial Gifts

APRIL MEMORIAL SCROLLS

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A GIFT ANNUITY is a means of providing yourself with a guaranteed income for life at the same time you provide financial support for College of the Ozarks. Many friends of C of O over the years have created Gift Annuities which eventually result in a gift to the College as a Memorial to themselves or friends and relatives that they may designate.

In brief, you give C of O a specific sum of cash, securities, or other property. In consideration of this gift, C of O guarantees to pay you a fixed annual income for life. This income is based on the amount of your gift and your age (ages) at the time the gift was made. If you are considering a survivor beneficiary or a two-life gift annuity, the income is based on the information for both lives. At the time of your death, the principal of your gift is used in support of our program here at Point Lookout.

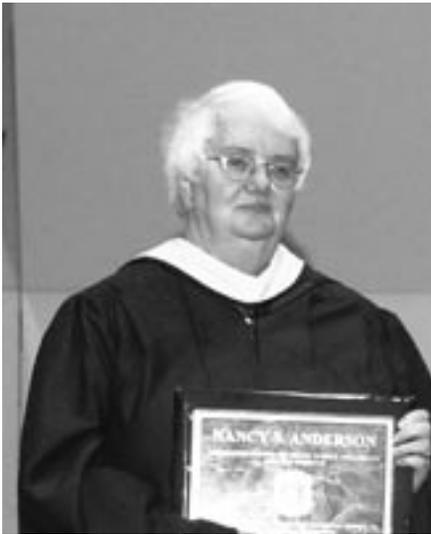
The Gift Annuity offers many advantages as a way to make a contribution. It insures a guaranteed, fixed annual income for life, and in the year you make your gift a large percent is deductible from your Federal Income Tax Return as a charitable contribution. If the deduction exceeds the amount allowed by law in any one year, you may apply the deduction over a period of as many as five years. In addition, a large portion of your annual income from the annuity paid to you by C of O will be tax free. It frees you of any management or investment worries, and you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have contributed to the education of young men and women who otherwise could not aspire to a college degree.

FACULTY FAREWELL

By Tamra Jane Corbin

College of the Ozarks bid farewell to three faculty members as they retired this May. Nancy Anderson, Mary Elizabeth Bradley, and Dr. William Horrell were all an important part of the College and will be greatly missed.

Nancy Anderson began her career at College of the Ozarks in 1967, as the head of technical services in the library. Since then she has seen many changes and contributed greatly to C of O.



Nancy Anderson

Anderson became the Library Director in 1993. Her leadership and hard work paved the way for some major accomplishments during her tenure at the College. She was responsible for many advancements including making the initial contacts with MORENET (our internet provider), that brought the Internet to campus.

For 38 years, she served the Col-

lege and the campus community as an elected and appointed member of several committees such as the Library/Bookstore Committee, Athletic Committee, Student Publication Board, and many others.

Mary Elizabeth Bradley spent



Mary Elizabeth Bradley

36 years teaching a variety of music classes at C of O, including all levels of piano and music history. She began playing the piano at the age of three. From studying with famous music teachers such as Gyorgy Sebok from Hungary, to teaching at the Xian Conservatory of music in China, she has done it all.

Prior to coming to C of O in 1969, Bradley taught at Minot State University in North Dakota. In 1996 she received the "Governor's Award for Excellence in Teaching" from Governor Mel Carnahan.

As an instructor, it was Bradley's goal to inspire students to become involved with the arts as a means of self expression; to discover the piano

as a source of relaxation, entertainment, and self-fulfillment; and to introduce music majors to the world of music from its earliest existence to its present.

Dr. William Horrell began teach-



Dr. William Horrell

ing at College of the Ozarks in 1990. He taught a variety of classes including English, Western Civilization, and Logic.

Dr. Horrell was best known for his Western Civilization course. He called his tests "inventories" and used a unique grading system for them. Students often boasted if they received an "F" (because it stood for a "Full Warehouse)," and it was terrible to get an "A" (because that meant an "Abandoned Warehouse!")

He was very active on campus with various student clubs. He helped charter the College Democrats as well as start the fencing club. His many interests include dancing and farming. He is proficient in ballet and swing dancing and owns a small farm near Kingston, Arkansas.

The College will certainly miss these fine faculty members.

A. Springgate, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Burgi, Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Kentner, Mr. and Mrs. Claude L. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Max Stratton

Evelyn Braden: from Miss Carolyn Hackman

Mrs. Walter Cobb (Marion): from Mr. and Mrs. Raymond E. Gerard

Noel Custer: from Mr. Dennis D.

Shepherd

James "Chester" Gillett: from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Turbeville

Ted Gottbrecht from Hazel E. Gottbrecht

Robert and Myrtle Hamilton: from Mr. Robert Hamilton

Harry Hendricks: from Dorothy and Louise Miley

Coral Crandall Hodde from Mrs. Kathlyn Flaten

Mrs. Fran Wagoner from Ms. Lauren J. Wagoner

James and Mildred Workman from Dr. James L. Workman

NAMES IN CAPITAL LETTERS REPRESENT GIFTS OF \$1,000 OR MORE.



Graduate Mark Walden receives his commission and pins from father Michael and mother Jo Ann.

began by reminding the new alums that they had been awarded a unique opportunity through attending College of the Ozarks. "As you sit here today, look around," Childers said. "For each of you sitting in those chairs, there are at least ten that wanted to. That makes you very special individuals."

The Vice-Chair then challenged the new alumni as

they go down "the river of life" to plan for every obstacle, to keep in touch with their alma mater, and not fade into obscurity. "I have noted over the years that there is a certain number that vanish—they move on and get caught up in their own lives. I would challenge you to never let that happen."

He reflected on his days shortly after leaving C of O and how a letter from past C of O President R.M. Good had meant so much to him. "R.M. Good used to send notes to alums, and I received a letter from him while serving in the Peace Corps in Central America. That has stayed with me for 40 years."

After the Honorable Doyle Childers addressed the graduating class, President Jerry C. Davis, Dean Marilyn Graves, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees Larry Walther awarded the diplomas to the eager graduates. The College also awarded 13 Ozarks Fellowship Scholarships to aid with cost of graduate school.

Those present for the College's 97th commencement saw appreciation and promise for the future in the eyes of 261 college graduates who do not owe a cent for their education.

Tom Brokaw to Speak at C of O

Tom Brokaw, one of the most respected figures in broadcast journalism, will be the guest speaker for the Leonard B. and Edith Gittinger Community Convocation on Thursday, November 10, 2005. Brokaw will speak on "The Greatest Generation," the title and theme of his first best-selling book, which highlights the heroism of America's veterans. This convocation will be held during Branson's Annual Veterans Homecoming Week.

Brokaw had a distinguished 38-year career at NBC News, including



more than 20 years as the anchor and managing editor of NBC Nightly News. Brokaw has had many "firsts" in his career, including the first exclusive with former Russian President Mikhail Gorbachev. He was the first and only anchor to report from the scene the night the Berlin Wall fell. He has received several awards for his hard work and outstanding accomplishments, including The Peabody Award, seven Emmy awards, the National Headliner Award, and The Dennis Kauff Memorial Award for Lifetime Achievement in Journalism. He is the author of four best-selling books.

If you would like to reserve tickets for this convocation, please call The Keeter Center for Character Education (417) 334-6411 ext. 4200.

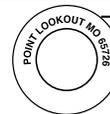
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