The question “Why Come Ye Here?” is often posed to College of the Ozarks students. Typical answers may be “to avoid student loans” or “to attend a college that promotes traditional, American and Christian values.”

Both answers point to the College’s mission of “providing the advantages of a Christian education for youth of both sexes, especially those found worthy, but who are without sufficient means to procure such training.”

In the nationally syndicated editorial “Debt Buries American Dream,” (USA Today, July 5, 2012) author Joseph E. Stiglitz (winner of the Nobel Prize in Economics) warns that we need to restore the American dream by tackling the student loan crisis head-on and ensuring our youth get a better education. Only a few remain committed to this dual purpose. College of the Ozarks is one. The American dream continues at Hard Work U. Look no further than the 2012 graduating class to see it in action. They graduated in May academically prepared, civic-minded, and possessing a strong work ethic. With these qualities, these graduates are poised to lead our communities and nation. You may learn more about some of our future leaders on page 10.

During the May Commencement Ceremony, KY3-TV senior news anchor Dr. Steve Grant admonished the graduates. “Most have forgotten, it seems [that] we didn’t do all this ourselves,” Dr. Grant said. “The priceless privileges we enjoy, which some exploit, were not automatic. Blessings do not always just happen. These things are predicated upon performance.” (Read more about Dr. Grant’s Commencement address on pages 8-9.)

Recent graduate Culea Abraham well understands this. As a descendant of a Bataan Death March survivor who passed away before she could hear his story, Culea set out to learn everything about her relative’s experiences and sacrifices. In March, she and 12 other C of O students traveled with WWII Veteran POW survivors and liberators to the Philippines to learn about the Bataan Death March (pages 6-7). During this trip, she found a bond and love of country that transcends.

Because of the work, sacrifice, sweat, and blood of others, we still have a chance for the American dream. The College recognizes this and continues to nurture and pass on our founding fathers’ resolve to younger generations. In August, School of the Ozarks (the College’s new laboratory college preparatory school for grades 9-12) will open. Similar to College of the Ozarks, this school seeks to provide a quality, Christian education to deserving young people. Immersed in academic rigor and opportunities to develop work ethic, Christian faith, and an appreciation for our nation’s heritage, these students too, will be poised to lead.

The American dream continues.

Please enjoy reading about the great things happening at Hard Work U in this issue of the Ozark Visitor.
During the past year, there has been a tremendous amount of progress toward the opening of the new School of the Ozarks, a college preparatory laboratory school for grades 9-12. What began as facts and figures on paper is coming to fruition. The construction to renovate the upper level of the R. M. Good Center was completed in July. At that time, the nice, new classrooms were ready for chairs, desks, books, students, and teachers.

In April and May, an admissions panel carefully considered 126 applications and interviewed nearly 100 applicants for admission to School of the Ozarks. “The committee spent weeks interviewing potential candidates for School of the Ozarks,” said S of O Headmaster Brad Dolloff, “and the School was honored to receive such a number of amazing applicants.” As of press time, 25 freshmen, 19 sophomores, 19 juniors, and six seniors were admitted for the fall semester that started August 16.

At that time, students began learning from the classical, Christian curriculum created by S of O faculty and administrators. As part of the work component, students are responsible for completing chores, such as cleaning their own classrooms and cleaning up after lunch. They will have the opportunity to compete (as Patriots) in cross country, volleyball, basketball, and track competitions throughout the year.

In addition to renovating the Good Center’s interior for the new school, a plaza is being added to the exterior. Patriots Plaza will feature an American flag, which students will raise and take down each day, and bronze plaques of four alumni whose distinguished service enabled them to become a one-star, two-star, three-star, and four-star general in the United States military.

“Patriots Plaza will encourage students to daily honor their nation and reflect on the leadership necessary to protect the God-given freedom that Americans so dearly love, but many readily take for granted,” said C of O President Jerry C. Davis. “The Plaza is just one facet of School of the Ozarks, but will serve as a reminder to students that patriotism is in their roots.”

The final steps of readying the new school were completed in August. A formal dedication of the new school is slated for November 8.

Noteworthy Dates

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>August 16</td>
<td>Opening Ceremony and First Day of Classes</td>
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<td>August 17</td>
<td>Inaugural Founders Friday</td>
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<td>November 8</td>
<td>School of the Ozarks Dedication</td>
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<td>(private ceremony)</td>
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<td>May 17, 2013</td>
<td>S of O Graduation</td>
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Planned giving is a way for you to integrate your personal, financial, and estate-planning goals by making lifetime or testamentary charitable gifts.

**Examples of Planned Gifts:**

**GOALS OF BEQUEST**
You may desire to support C of O but are unable to make gifts during your lifetime. For example, you may have property that is needed during your life to cover your living expenses or health care costs.

**Bequest**
A bequest is a gift made through your will or trust. A bequest is the simplest type of planned gift for you to make and one of the easiest to implement.

**GOALS OF CGA**
You want to make a gift to C of O and receive fixed income for the future. This plan works well with a gift of cash or appreciated stock that is providing little or no income.

**Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA)**
You make a gift of cash or property to us and we agree to make fixed payments for one or two lives.

**GOALS OF CRT**
You own appreciated property that produces little or no income and would like to sell without paying capital gains tax. You may desire income for retirement.

**Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT)**
You transfer your cash or property to fund a trust that makes payments for your lifetime, or a number of years, then the remainder passes to C of O.

**GOALS OF LIFE ESTATE**
You want to remain living in your home and desire a current income tax deduction.

**Life Estate Reserved**
You transfer your personal residence or farm to us and retain the right to use the property for your lifetime.

**GOALS OF A CLT**
You want to pass specific property to your family without paying a lot of gift estate tax.

**Family Lead Trust (CLT)**
You transfer your cash or property to a trust that makes payments to C of O for a number of years and then passes the trust property to your family with no additional tax.

For more information call us at 417-690-2209 or visit our planned giving tab at cofo.edu.
Meet Board of Trustees Member  

Mr. Don E. Baker

By Turner Brock

From 1906-1967, prior to the institution becoming a four-year college, The School of the Ozarks (S of O) provided a quality, Christian, high school education to deserving young people from the Ozarks region. (Of course, beginning this fall, that tradition will be revived with the opening of the new School of the Ozarks, a college preparatory laboratory school for grades 9-12.) Current Board of Trustees member Mr. Don E. Baker graduated from the first S of O high school in 1950. Lessons learned at the work-study high school set him on a path to become a hardworking, civic-minded, successful individual.

His family lived down a winding, hard-scrabble dirt road near Kirbyville, Missouri, that the public school bus would not dare travel. S of O, the boarding high school approximately 15 miles from their home, became the only viable way for him and his elder brother, Eddie, to obtain a high school education.

Mr. Baker says that he still remembers the S of O chapel services and the admonitions that, then, S of O President R. M. Good passed on to students. “Dr. Good would give motivational speeches to us,” he said. “I can still hear his voice ringing in my head. Dr. Good would always tell us that if you wanted to get ahead in life, you would have to work and work hard.”

While attending S of O, one of Mr. Baker’s student work assignments was in construction. During that time he helped build the President’s home, Jordan Music Building, the Pfeiffer Science Building, Josephine Armstrong McDonald Hospital, and Williams Memorial Chapel. He also was assigned to farm work and could be found pitching hay with the other S of O students during the summer hay season.

After graduating from S of O and attending one year at Draughon’s Business University, Mr. Baker served two years in the U. S. Army. In the service, he took a finance procedures course and was assigned to the Finance Center for Europe in Germany. He was honorably discharged with the rank of Corporal (E-4) in 1955, after which, he became a cost accountant during the construction of Table Rock Dam. Realizing the need for a degree, he attended Southwest Missouri State University (SMSU), earning a Bachelor of Science in accounting.

A little known fact about Mr. Baker is that he was a professional square dancer. While attending SMSU, he toured 42 states and four Canadian provinces with a show called the “Ozark Jubilee starring Red Foley.”

After obtaining his bachelor’s degree, Mr. Baker worked as a staff auditor for Missouri Farmers Association, which inspired the idea of entering the sales field. He found his calling at State Farm Insurance Companies as an agent, and for 35 years, he served the Branson/Tri-Lakes area in this capacity, until his retirement in 1998.

Mr. Baker continued his professional education at The American Institute for Property and Liability Underwriters, where he became a Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) and later earned his Charter Life Underwriter (CLU), the highest designation of insurance expertise, from The American College.

Since 1999, Mr. Baker has served as a member of the College of the Ozarks Board of Trustees and remains involved in the College of the Ozarks Alumni Association. An active member of his community, he serves as a Director of First Community Bank of the Ozarks, Director of Branson Housing Authority-Vice Chairman, and a Trustee of Skaggs Community Hospital. For many years he has been a member of First Presbyterian Church of Branson, where he has served as a deacon and former trustee.

One could cite a long list of achievements and talents for this S of O alumnus and C of O trustee. However, Mr. Baker maintains that his greatest accomplishment was marrying his wife, Betts, and raising five happy and productive children: Douglas, Dale, Donna, Bryan, and Linda.

While attending S of O, Mr. Baker was also assigned to work in the field. This picture captures him and other S of O students pitching hay.
The Bonds that Last

Patriotic Education

By Culea Abraham, C of O student and a descendant of a Bataan Death March Survivor

Family is one of the most important things that God gives us. They were placed in our lives for a purpose, as we were. I tell you this so that you may understand why my trip to the Philippines was so extremely important to me.

When I learned of an opportunity to go on a memorial tour to World War II sites in the Philippines, I had a gut-wrenching feeling, but also was excited to apply because my Great Uncle Linus Marlow had been interned in POW camps there. I saw it as a chance to learn more about my family and submitted my application. Then, the College informed me that I had been selected to go on the trip to the Philippines, not as a student, but as a descendant of my Great Uncle Linus.

Since my Great Uncle passed away before I was born, I did quite a bit of research on his part in the war. In 1940, he joined the Army Air Corps at the age of 20 (two years younger than I am right now). As part of the 17th Pursuit Squadron, he was stationed on the Filipino peninsula of Bataan during the surrender. Uncle Linus survived the Bataan Death March, POW camps Camp O’Donnell and Cabanatuan, as well as imprisonment in a POW camp in Japan called Funatsu.

He returned from war just in time to celebrate Christmas at home in Wisconsin, weighing only 90 pounds. That first night home, he stayed up all night telling about what happened, and then never spoke of those events again.

This trip offered the chance to see WWII battle fields, and it held a greater purpose—to know more about the sufferings that took place in Bataan, in honor of my Uncle Linus, and the chance to bring comfort to my family after 70 years.

The day that we visited the memorial site at Camp O’Donnell, we walked the last kilometer into the camp, the same path the men did as they finished the Bataan Death March. As I walked along the side of the road, I thought about my Uncle Linus. Tired, hungry, and on the verge of death, he dragged himself this same last kilometer. I thought, maybe my feet are landing in the same exact spot that his toes had slid along the ground 70 years before.

Wiping my eyes as I went, I made my way to the American Memorial. On this memorial, there is a list of the units who had been held in this camp. Slowly, I ran my right index finger down the list until I finally landed on the 17th Pursuit Squadron. I had known and been told that Uncle Linus had been here, but seeing his unit listed there filled me with a sense of pride, as well as a relief that, even though he suffered so much, he had survived.

As a new graduate and beginning teacher, thanks to the opportunity of traveling with Veterans, I will be able to teach my future students things that they may not learn from anyone else. I will have a unique perspective of the War to share. I will teach them what it really means to be an American.

These men [POW survivors] were freed from POW camps at the end of World War II. They went back to their homes, families, and lives. Some, like my Great Uncle, swore to never speak of their experiences. Men may always be haunted by war, but the chains that never break are the ones that grow stronger with time. These are the bonds that last—your family and your faith in the Almighty God.
To mark the 70th anniversary of the Bataan Death March, 12 College of the Ozarks students embarked with six Bataan Death March/Corregidor POW survivors and liberators and three descendants of survivors on an incredible journey to the Philippines April 3-13.

Seventy years ago this March and May, thousands of American and Filipino soldiers were taken as Prisoners of War by the Japanese in the Philippines on Bataan and the island of Corregidor. They would become known as the “Ghost Soldiers,” nearly forgotten because of the raging war in the Pacific. These “Ghost Soldiers” endured unthinkable living conditions and inhumane treatment by the Japanese military.

Philippine survivors Wayne Carringer (27th Bomb Group, U. S. Army Air Corps), Jim Collier (59th Coast Artillery, U. S. Army), Bob Ehrhart (4th Marine Regiment), Warren Jorgenson (4th Marine Regiment) and Bataan/Corregidor liberators Ed Knight (43rd Infantry, U. S. Army) and Lawrence Nelson (1st Calvary, U. S. Army) accompanied College of the Ozarks students to significant sites. Among those, the contingent visited Camp O’Donnell, the prison camp where some were held on Luzon, the Balanga location where Major General Edward King surrendered, and Mt. Samat for the Day of Valor 70th Anniversary ceremony.

C of O students John Mathews and Maria Williams wrote in the student trip blog that “the experiences we have witnessed these past ten days have been seared into our memory. The soldiers, battlefields, and stories are now a part of us. It is our duty to keep the memory of their sacrifices alive. It is because of the sweat, fear, blood, and devotion of Ed Knight, Jim Collier, Warren Jorgenson, Lawrence Nelson, Wayne Carringer, and Bob Ehrhart that we are free.”

To read a day-by-day journal of their journey, go to http://patriotictravel2012.blogspot.com/.

“It seems that a simple thank you is never enough for the blood, sweat, and tears that were shed during those years of horror. However, we hope that bringing these six men here to this country, learning their stories, and taking that knowledge to pass on to future generations is a promising start.”

Katie Kramer and Tim Church, C of O students

Student Daniel Mallete listens to Bataan Death March Survivor Wayne Carringer.

POW Survivors Warren Jorgenson, Wayne Carringer, and Jim Collier stand in front of a restored train car, like one that carried them to the POW camp.

At the Hellships Memorial, a wreath was laid in honor of alumnus Kaney Willbanks who died on a Hellship.

Culea Abraham and Jim Collier examine the ruins of a military base on Corregidor.
College of the Ozarks held its 105th Commencement exercises May 13, wherein 308 students received bachelor degrees representing more than 40 majors and minors. The day began with a baccalaureate service given by Dr. Stephen J. Andrews, Professor of Old Testament Archaeology and Director of the Ph.D. Program at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Dr. Andrews serves at Midwestern, where he also oversees the Morton-Seats Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. Notably, he participated in archaeological excavations at Tel Gezer, Dan and Hazor in Israel, and the Karak Resources Project dig at al-Mudaybi in Jordan. His experiences in Israel, and as a minister, husband, and father provided examples and perspective for his message on “What Matters for Time and Eternity,” based on Matthew 6:31-33.

The scripture (King James Version) says, “Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

Dr. Andrews told students about the time when this scripture began to resonate with him. While he was on a dig in Israel, the area was shelled by Palestine. Initially, he was quite fearful, but then began to think on the scripture. It brought comfort to him, when he realized that seeking God’s will—His Kingdom—includes placing complete trust in Him.

In Dr. Andrews’ words, we should do three things when seeking what matters for time and eternity. “Number one: we ought to seek the right things. Number two: we should discover the awesome character of God, and three: we ought to live the kind of life that pleases God.”

Following the baccalaureate service, graduates and their families enjoyed an open-air picnic around Lake Honor. The day’s sunshine and warmth added to the festive atmosphere.

At 2 p.m., all gathered again for Commencement. Springfield, Missouri’s NBC KY3-TV Senior Anchor Steve Grant, gave the Commencement address, focusing on how “Hard Work Beats Mere Talent.” Dr. Grant exhibits talent daily in his vocation, and has put forth a tremendous amount of hard work. Prior to his television debut at age 15, he got his start in broadcast as a disc jockey for Springfield’s KTXR-FM and then began anchoring for KY3 at age 20. Every day you will see his dedication during the noon news.

During his address he provided meaningful insight regarding life lessons. Dr. Grant told students that credibility hinges on integrity. “Credibility will take you places, yet it only becomes ironclad with integrity,” he said. “Both handled carelessly, however, are as fragile as eggs.”

“Credibility will take you places, yet it only becomes ironclad with integrity,” he said. “Both handled carelessly, however, are as fragile as eggs.”
Another lesson he emphasized was the importance of work ethic—to which he quoted Paul Harvey’s prophetic warning that “it was not the lousy communist we should worry about, but the lazy American.”

Dr. Grant added, “Most have forgotten, it seems, [that] we didn’t do all this ourselves. The priceless privileges we enjoy, which some exploit, were not automatic. Blessings do not always just happen. These things are predicated upon performance.”

He was speaking of America’s Greatest Generation and especially WWII Veterans, to which he has dedicated many hours as Ozarks Honor Flight spokesman ensuring they have the chance to visit the WWII Memorial in our nation’s capital at no cost.

“All gave their tomorrows so we could have our todays,” he reminded the graduates. “‘They don’t make them like those guys anymore,’ but it seems we need to start again, soon.”

The College recognized Dr. Grant for his long-time dedication to bringing the news to the Ozarks and for his work in ensuring WWII Veterans are honored with the opportunity to visit their memorial in our nation’s capital. (Because of his efforts, more than 1,200 WWII Veterans living in the Ozarks have visited the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C.)

Following his address, College of the Ozarks President Jerry C. Davis, assisted by Trustee Dr. Max Ruhl (Board of Trustees Academic and Cultural Affairs Committee Chair and former Dean of Education and Human Services at Northwest Missouri State University) conferred an Honorary Doctor of Public Service degree to Dr. Grant.

The ceremony continued with the commissioning of two graduates who had completed their officer training for the U. S. Army and concluded with the conferring of baccalaureate degrees to the new graduates of Hard Work U.
The leadership displayed on campus and in the community is only a foreshadowing of these students becoming the future leaders of society. This ongoing series includes a brief biographical sketch of each successful student.

SADIE HUFF
Major: Elementary Education, scheduled to graduate May 2013
Workstation: Education Department Office
Achievements: C of O Dean’s List, 2009 Farmers and Merchants Bank Scholarship, 2009 MFA Scholarship, 2009-2010 ECC Scholarship in Piano Performance, 2010 National Associations of Teachers of Singing Competition, 2011 C of O Homecoming Miss Congeniality and a member of the College Historians, Kappa Delta Pi (International Honor Society in Education), Christian Apologetics Club, and Student Missouri State Teachers Association

Associate Professor of Education Marcia Mahlman says: “Sadie is a passionate seeker and server. She actively seeks wisdom and knowledge so that she may be better prepared to serve children, while always representing Christ.”

Future Plans: After graduation, Sadie will serve as an elementary teacher while she pursues a master’s degree in education at a university in Louisville, Kentucky.

FUTURE LEADERS

EMMALEA MARTIN
Major: History and Business Administration, scheduled to graduate May 2013
Workstation: Cash Accounts
Achievements: Dean’s List, Alumni Scholarship, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Slagle Business Award, College Historians-Secretary and Treasurer, Participant of the Coast Guard Academy Ethics Forum 2011, The Keeter Center for Character Education Ethics Forum 2011, and the C of O Academy for Lifestyle Leadership 2010, and a member of Sigma Beta Delta (National Honors Society in Business Administration) and Phi Alpha Theta (National Honors Society in History)

Professor of History Dr. David Dalton says: “Emma embodies the spirit and vision of the College. She has a work ethic for her classes that I have not seen equaled in over 20 years of teaching at the College.”

Future Plans: Upon graduation, Emmalea will pursue graduate studies in history so that she can teach at the college level.

JOHN MATHEWS
Major: Business, scheduled to graduate May 2013
Workstation: Christian Ministries
Achievements: Eagle Scout, McKibben Leadership Scholarship, and publisher of a Springfield-area magazine

Professor of Business/Accounting Dr. Rex Mahlman says: “My experience with John has been all positive. He does a good job in class, always does his work, has a great personality, and is a willing participant in class discussions.”

Future Plans: John plans to attend Spanish language school in Costa Rica or Spain and then return to the US to acquire his master’s degree in business. Ultimately, he plans to own his own business and incorporate his business into overseas missions.
In the Next Ozark Visitor...

Read about 17 students, three Holocaust Survivors, and three WWII Veteran Liberators’ unforgettable journey to Auschwitz, Mauthausen, and Dachau to learn about the destruction, courage, sacrifice, and triumph that came out of one of the world’s darkest hours.

For more information about the College of the Ozarks Patriotic Education Travel Program, please contact (417) 690-2242.

Call for Veterans

If you or someone you know served in any of these campaigns and might be interested in applying to accompany College of the Ozarks students on Patriotic Education Travel, please contact The Keeter Center for Character Education at (417) 690-2242. Veterans are selected based on health status, ability to travel and involvement in the WWII effort.

The College is looking for WWII Veterans who served the Battle of Guadalcanal or who served at Normandy in the 8th Air Corps, Naval Armed Guard, or Merchant Marines.
“Nursing Student of the Year” Finalist

The Springfield News-Leader Media Group named College of the Ozarks nursing student Joanna Good “Honorable Mention for Nursing Student of the Year.” The Missouri State Board of Nursing reviewed the nominations from southwest Missouri before selecting the finalists.

The “Nursing Student of the Year” and finalists were announced at the Southwest Missouri Salute to Nurses Luncheon on April 24.

Currently, Good attends the College of the Ozarks Armstrong McDonald School of Nursing and will graduate May 2013 with a Bachelor of Science in nursing. After graduation, she aspires to work in an area hospital in order to gain general experience as an RN.

COSIFE Wins at USA Regionals

College of the Ozarks Students in Free Enterprise (COSIFE) team was named a “Regional Champion” at the SIFE USA Regional Competition held April 16, in Chicago, Illinois. The event is one of 11 SIFE USA Regional Competitions held across the United States in March and April.

At competition, COSIFE presenting team members provided judges with an overview of projects completed during this academic year. Projects ranged from teaching high school students career development skills and finance fundamentals to creating a program that helped area homeless earn a housing deposit while participating in classes on how to end the cycle of poverty.

Students Take First at Academy of Science

College of the Ozarks students won first-place awards at the 2012 Missouri Academy of Science meeting held on April 14, at the University of Missouri—Columbia. Matt Lawson won first place for Best Oral Presentation in the chemistry section, and Heather Hula won first place for Best Oral Presentation in the biology section.

The Missouri Academy of Science (MAS) is a meeting that gives undergraduates a chance to present their research in front of peers and compete against other schools. This year it was held at University of Missouri—Columbia. College of the Ozarks was one of the many colleges that presented at MAS. Other colleges were Lincoln University, University of Missouri—Columbia, Evangel University, Cottey College, Westminster College, Rockhurst University, Southeast Missouri State University, Northwest Missouri State University, and many more.
When most people recall their days at summer camp, stories of knighthood and archery training probably do not come to mind. But over the summer, campers at College of the Ozarks Camp Lookout experienced exciting events and more with the Renaissance-themed camp week titled “Renew.” “The idea of Renaissance tied in with our motto verse, 2 Corinthians 5:17, which speaks of old being taken over by new,” Camp Lookout Director Nancy Finn says. The connection made sense to Finn, who recognizes that with each innovative theme also comes a new year of counselors and camper dynamics.

The main road of the camp took participants through the heart of what appeared to be a medieval village. With a little imagination, cabins became castles; creeks changed to moats. The personalized shields of each cabin swayed overhead in the breeze while campers and their student leaders moved about. Three-time counselor Ariel Archer says the Renaissance theme was effective.

Started in the early 1990s, Camp Lookout has a mission similar to College of the Ozarks. “Camp Lookout is a week-long, overnight camp for area children ages 8-12 who perhaps cannot afford the expenses of traditional summer camps,” Finn says. The camp provides a Christ-centered camp experience, while allowing campers the opportunity to visit Branson fun spots like Silver Dollar City and Skateworld, at no out-of-pocket expense.

Recreational administration major Jeremy McAlister feels right at home in Camp Lookout. As activities coordinator, he developed a full lineup of games, competitions, and events that all fell under the Renaissance theme. From archery training to a medieval banquet, the campers remained busy with activities. “This year we added a real overarching purpose to all of the competitive games by calling it “Knight Training,” says McAlister. “Each completed activity got a camper one step closer to becoming a knight.”

It isn’t all about the action-packed activities at Camp Lookout. Finn says that Thursday morning was set aside for the campers to participate in a community service project by visiting a local nursing home and singing for residents. “It’s important for the students to realize that just as they have been gifted this opportunity, they also need to give back,” says Finn. Another crucial event in the daily lineup was nightly devotionals. Archer believes that this time is most important to demonstrate the main focus of camp—“to share the love of Christ and even bring some kids to know Him for the first time.”

Although there was a spirited sense of renewal and renaissance at Camp Lookout this year, its core values and goals remain unchanged. The opportunities for student counselors and campers to grow in Christ propel this unique camp to success. So while the camp participants enjoyed dragon slaying and becoming princesses, they were taught to never forget that the relationships they built with each other and with Christ are what matters.
By Morgan Sowell

One of College of the Ozarks fundamental goals is patriotism—to encourage an understanding of American heritage, civic responsibilities, love of country, and willingness to defend it. In keeping with the patriotic goal, the College hosted Missouri’s "Remembering Our Fallen" memorial, a 60-foot wall display featuring the names and pictures of 142 Missouri men and women who lost their lives during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. The memorial was created to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Hundreds visited the memorial during its stay June 1-11 at the College.

“The College was honored to host the memorial, which is a reminder of the price of freedom,” said C of O President Jerry C. Davis.

The memorial was designed so that it could easily travel to communities throughout the state for a week at a time. It made its first appearance on July 31, 2011, at the Missouri State Capitol in Jefferson City, and has traveled to several Missouri cities since. On the opening day of the memorial at College of the Ozarks, family and friends of the fallen were invited to attend a special ceremony honoring their loved ones.

In addition to many individuals representing the general public, 34 family members and friends of the fallen attended. Mr. Bryan Cizek, a C of O graduate and former U. S. Army Ranger, who participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, offered remarks for the ceremony. With understanding, he was able to relate to those who had lost their loved ones. “The last moments of these brave service members were spent doing something they love, that is fighting and defending the nation that is so dear to them,” he said. “I can say this with confidence, because I have been there during the last minutes of some of these brave souls.”

His remarks offered comfort to loved ones of the fallen and a harsh realization of the cost of freedom.

Following the ceremony, attendees took time to view the memorial. While looking at a name and picture in the memorial, it was not uncommon for someone nearby to point to a picture and say, “He was my son,” or “He was my husband.”

“Paying honor to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice is the least we can do and really is not enough,” President Davis said.

While looking at a name and picture in the memorial, it was not uncommon for someone nearby to point to a picture and say, “He was my son,” or “He was my husband.”
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 whom 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 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.
College of the Ozarks 23rd annual old-fashioned patriotic celebration, Honor America, was held June 24th and featured an evening of activities, including a special performance by the United States Military Academy’s drum and bugle corps Hellcats.