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CALLED... to influence our culture

GED — A PERSONAL TESTIMONY

For those of us who didn't finish high school, we all have a reason--some good, some not so good. For me it was the confluence of many reasons and circumstances which drove me to drop out in my senior year of high school. The one driving factor was my belief that I didn't have the ability to do well in school so I was just wasting my time. My stellar "D" average was making graduation questionable at best anyway. The facts were—I wasn't interested in school, I didn't think I was smart, and I was lazy and bored. I just wanted to move on to something else. I took and passed my GED test the summer after quitting school and hoped that it would open some doors for me, but I didn't expect too much.

I joined the Navy the following year, and in the Navy's infinite wisdom I was assigned to a very demanding, fast-paced, two-year advanced electronics school. In my head I was saying "big mistake guys, I am not that smart". I figured I would give it a try and see what happened. Much to my surprise, I not only passed, but excelled in the school and finished top of the class. I discovered that schooling, of any type, requires much more effort than intellect. I discovered that if I applied myself, and made a con-

scious effort to achieve excellence, I could do as well as or better than anyone else. I realized I wasn't dumb, contrary to what I believed and had been told. I began to see there was nothing I couldn't do, if I was willing to work for it. I quickly moved up through the Navy ranks, being promoted much faster than my peers, and eventually reaching the rank of E-9 Master Chief. I was assigned to areas with greater responsibilities and technical demands. Eventually, I was assigned to head up the intelligence processing and training/curriculum development efforts for undersea warfare for the entire Atlantic fleet. Me, in charge of training! I still only had a GED.

The Lord continued to bless me and I soon took on a new role in the research and development of new training and tactical systems for surface warships. This was in addition to what I was already doing. Over the next year I became the Navy's subject matter expert in several developing systems and was soon flying around the country



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"...there are a lot of people like me who have the potential to achieve great things, but for whatever reason, have had setbacks or just don't believe they can. Hopefully my story shows that you can."

GED, Kip Bailey, right and p. 3

ALMS & LEGS FOOD PANTRY

We have had a lot of wonderful opportunities to minister to people within our community through our food pantry here at Community Bible Church. We appreciate everyone that has donated food to our pantry. It has blessed so many people in need. Alms & Legs is continuing to get calls for food and we are currently in need of a variety of items to restock our pantry. Our food pantry is in need of the items listed below:

Please drop off these items or any others that could help restock our pantry in the Alms & Legs Food Pantry box in the church lobby. Thank you for helping us in this wonderful ministry. We look forward to continuing to show the love of Christ to those in our church and community through our Alms & Legs Food Pantry. Thanks!

- Canned Meats
- Breakfast Cereals
- Boxed Rice Dishes
- Canned Fruits
- Canned Soups
- Biscuit / Pancake Mixes



Striving to produce followers of Jesus Christ who are COMMITTED to growing in intimacy with God, CONNECTED in community with believers, and CALLED to influence our culture.

**“LEARN IT, SPEAK IT, LIVE IT” —
YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY**

What is “it” you ask? The BIBLE! The Shelby Kennedy Foundation is sponsoring a Bible Bee - like a spelling bee, but based on the Bible. Contestants will participate in quoting verses from a list of 300 -500 (using one of 5 common translations) and answering general Bible knowledge questions.

So why should you care? Because money is usually our first motivator, how about a \$100,000 top prize for the winner that can come tax-free in the form of a college scholarship or can be paid out in cash minus taxes? Even if you don’t win the cash, you are still a winner because the

ultimate goal is to encourage youth to genuine spiritual growth through Scripture memorization, and thus prepare them to be effective ambassadors for Jesus Christ for the next generation.

So here is how it works! Feb 15th through April 30th you can sign up for a local competition at www.biblebee.org. There are three age divisions:

- Primary ages 7-10
- Juniors ages 11-13
- Seniors ages 14-18

They then will send you a prep packet with the list of 300 -500 verses. You spend the

summer practicing verses and Bible knowledge questions.

Then on September 12th, you will attend a local competition that is based on a point system where you are competing against everyone in the USA via computer networking. The top 100 competitors will then go to Washington, D.C., for the national competition November 4th – 6th, 2009. More details can be found at www.biblebee.org.



By Tamar Leemkuil

YOUTH FOCUS: CASSAUNDA & ESTHER SCHOW

This edition’s youth focus is on two beautiful and very busy sisters - Cassandra and Esther Schow. They are both homeschooled, and have two brothers, Joshua and Elijah.

Cassandra is 18 and a senior this year, and Esther is 16 and a sophomore. They are both involved in many activities including basketball, Key club (Cassandra is the president this year), debate, Awana, vaulting, and ballet/dance (which Cassandra also teaches). They are both very excited about being involved in the Easley Home School play at SWU, “The Holy War” by John Bunyan. Please come out to see them and the rest of our homeschoolers. Posters will soon be hung with more details. In addition to these activities, for fun they love to go to Eden Farms, do English/ Scottish dancing, and participate in Young Ladies Institute.

Both Cassandra and Esther have accepted Christ as their personal



Savior, Esther at the age of 6 and Cassandra at the age of 13. Esther has grown in her relationship since then and has found a Bible Study group with accountability from peers very helpful in her daily Christian walk. Cassandra has also grown and appreciates that Christ is the center of her peace, the Place to give her anger, the Someone there when she is lonely, and the One who has changed her worldview. A favorite verse is Philippians 1:9.

Their future plans differ. Cassandra is planning to study kinesiology and wants to be a homeschooling mother. Esther wants to study veterinary medicine and go to Australia.

Their role models are Susanne Alewine and their Mumzy, and they really do appreciate all the ladies who are there for them at Young Ladies Institute.

Cassandra and Esther are the daughters of Eric and Nanette Schow.

By Tamar Leemkuil

OUT & ABOUT FOR MOMS

Ever feel you are alone in raising your children? Ever feel like you just “have to get out of the house” in the midst of diapers and chaos? I think all of us with small children have been in that position often! If you are new to the church or just “tuning in,” Out & About was designed for moms at home with their children, wanting to get out some and develop relationships with other moms in the process.

In February, we plan to go to Par-Tee Time in Easley. We have rented the place from 9:30-11 on February 17th for only \$3.15 per child. Much energy can be “jumped off” in 1 ½ hours! We are planning to have an Easter egg hunt and picnic at the Ott’s house on the morning of March 27th. I would love to see some new faces at the upcoming events, so invite your friends and come out to “live life together” with us!

By Janet Austin



GED: A PERSONAL TESTIMONY CONT'D

meeting with and providing input to the major civilian contractors assigned to the design and development of these new systems.

During this period, I decided I needed to further my education if I planned to continue what I was doing after I retired. I enrolled in college and had 3 years to finish a 4 year degree before I was due to go to sea again. I did this while working a full time job, flying around the country for meetings, and trying to be a good husband and father of three boys. This is where the lesson I

learned about effort really paid off. I knew if I was persistent (very persistent) and worked hard (very hard) I could do it, and I did. In three years I graduated with a degree in business management specializing in technology management. I not only graduated, but I graduated with honors-Magna cum Laude-a far cry from the days of struggling through high school. Before I retired, I went on to graduate school and received a Masters degree from Clemson University.

So what does an old high school drop out do after retiring from the Navy? Why, I teach

high school and work with the GED program, of course! Who woulda thunk it? I do this because I believe--no, I know--that there are a lot of people like me who have the potential to achieve great things, but for whatever reason, have had setbacks or just don't believe they can. Hopefully my story shows that you can. Hard work and persistence will take you a lot farther than mere intellect.

*By Kip Bailey
Alms & Legs / GED Ministry*

AWANA GAMES 2009:
"EXHILARATING FUN, ETERNAL FOCUS"

The AwanaGames began in 1955 when four Awana clubs competed against one another in the basement of Chicago's North Side Gospel Center. Clubbers were allowed to participate if they had completed certain requirements, including passing tests based on Bible knowledge. AwanaGames pit clubs from different churches in competi-



tion at local, state, regional, and national levels. The games are open to students in Sparks, T&T, and Trek, and more than 600 AwanaGames events take place in the USA each year. This year CBC is putting together our

first-ever team for the 2009 AwanaGames. Encourage students you know to participate in the games March 14th at Palmetto High School in Williamston. Practice for the games will be once a week beginning in February. Call Daniel Jachens, CBC Awana Game Director, at 864-506-5546 with questions.



Thanks to all of you who prayed for and helped out with Awana's Great ShakeUP Sunday, February 1st. We received a good response from within the community, and our month-long campaign resulted in approximately 15-20 new clubbers hearing the Gospel. Our children not only brought visitors for the day of the ShakeUP, but also for the Sundays leading up to it. Our regular Awana clubbers were very excited about the event, including Alyssa Wood who personally brought 4 new visitors during the campaign. Mary Loveday, a

long-time Awana leader, stated that "the kids thoroughly enjoyed it, and we feel it was very successful." She went on to say that this year's Great ShakeUP resulted in the "best turnout we've had for it." A special thanks goes out to Matt and Chana Kamb who put a lot of time and energy into the ShakeUP campaign in the midst of moving and normal Awana responsibilities. Thanks also to all of the leaders and parents who worked to motivate and encourage our clubbers to spread the Gospel of Christ to their peers.



T&T BOWLING

The T&T clubbers have a bowling activity Friday, February 13th at the Union Recreation Center, Clemson University. The clubbers will start with pizza and drinks at CBC at 6:00, then head out at 6:40 to Clemson to bowl from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Clubbers will return to CBC by 10:30 pm. Cost is \$6.00 per participant.



T&T QUIZZING

This year T&T clubbers will participate again in the Awana Bible Quizzing February 28th at Grace Baptist Church in Columbia. The goal of the quizzing is to encourage the clubbers to have greater knowledge, understanding and memory of God's Word. For more details, visit our Awana webpage at <http://mycbc.net/childrens-ministries/Awanamenu>.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 1st:
 - The Great ShakeUP
 - Director's Meeting
- 8th: Leader Prayer Mtg 4:45
- 13th: T&T Bowling Night at the Union Recreation Center at Clemson University
- 15th: Valentine Party
- 28th: Awana Bible Quizzing at Grace Baptist Church in Columbia

MARCH

- 1st:
 - Director's Meeting
 - March Madness Kickoff
 - Awana Store
- 8th: Leader Prayer Mtg 4:45
- 14th: Awana Games at Palmetto High School in Williamston
- 20/21st: T&T Activity

APRIL

- 4th: Sparkie Zoo Trip
- 12th: NO Awana (Easter)
- 26th: Thank You Night

MAY

- 3rd: Last night to say sections
- 10th:
 - Last night of club
 - Carnival
 - Awana Store

CONNECTED... *in community with believers*

YOUNG LADIES INSTITUTE

February 7th from 10 am to 1 pm is our next Young Ladies Institute. Amber Kusmier is planning to show us how to make baby blankets to be donated to a pregnancy center; or, if you choose to, you may bring a yard (or bigger) of fleece fabric of your choice to make a blanket for yourself. We will also be making cut-out sugar cookies just in time for Valentines Day.

March 21st is the date for exploring our Irish heritage by making Potato Soup with John Allen, and possibly doing a sewing project with Kari Young.

Please join us for all the fun as Young Ladies Institute seeks to maintain a mentoring spirit, not only between the ladies and the girls but also between each other. Come learn with

us and/or share your skills. If you have a skill you want to share, please contact Barbara Brown, Laurie Francis or Tamar Leemkuil. We look forward to seeing you!



By Tamar Leemkuil

Marketplace

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LISTINGS

Have a service to offer or something to buy, sell, or trade? List it here for free! Email all submissions to cbcnews@mycbc.net to post your listing in the next newsletter.

COMMITTED... *to growing in intimacy with God*

LADIES RETREAT 2009

140 women! Half from CBC, the other half representing 13 other states and 4 countries. What a glorious site! The gathering of these beautiful women for a weekend at The Cove with the Lover of their soul was truly amazing. Leigh Barkalow, our speaker, brought the message that we are all created in the image of God, truly feminine; that we have a beauty to unveil, which speaks, when all is chaos and crazy around us, and says "all will be well." A woman at rest brings comfort to others and invites them to sit and behold her Savior. Beauty nourishes the soul and inspires others to a higher calling. We learned that we all long to be romanced and we all want to have an irreplaceable role in the Big Story. All of this is bestowed on us because we are cre-

ated in the image of God and redeemed by His dear Son.

While the use of many movie clips was probably a surprise to some, these clips combined with powerful music and personal illustrations allowed many of the women to better be able to envision and connect emotionally with the message. Whether you are in the "dark night", "in training" or "rescuing" phase, Jesus is the great romancer of your soul. He is the only one who will never leave you, will always be a gentleman and gently call to your heart – through so many different ways as we all learned.

A big thank you to Rae Barnett who taught some of the ladies different Jewish dances.

To all who blessed us with the beautiful worship dance on Sunday, many thanks. The dance was truly beautiful.

The Cove and all who worked there were just wonderful. The beauty of the place and its surroundings called our hearts to worship the Creator. The kind, sweet spirit of each person that worked there—from the shuttle drivers to the many servers at our wonderful meals—all were used to remind each lady that they are princesses in the Kingdom. As princesses we are all loved, cherished beyond what we could imagine, and called to be part of this Epic story.

By Stephanie Carroll



Leigh Barkalow, Speaker



A Dance for our God

MOTHER/SON DATE NIGHT

"You're joking!" was my son Keith's first response when I told him we were going on a date that evening. His 10-year-old boy brain originally thought a date meant dancing. But after thinking about it all day, he told me he thought that we were probably just going to do something that we both liked together and that would be cool. So after a short challenge from Steve Hicks about showing our sons how to treat a girl on a date, we headed to Gatti Town for pizza and bumper car rides. The time we spent together was fun, of course, but more importantly I could give Keith my undivided attention for an evening, which he loved. He talked my ear off and asked all kinds of questions I didn't even know he was thinking about. Next time it might be miniature golf, bowling, watching a movie or hiking... all that really matters is the time I get to have with my son.

By Heidi Matthews

MISSIONS

Language Institute in Peru

Julie Rogers continues teaching in Peru at SALI after a short Christmas break trip to the USA. Upon returning, her teaching started back with a full schedule.

Her computer and backpack with all its contents (license, flash drive, homework, debit card, etc.) was stolen January 17. Please pray for her, the other teachers, and the students because a few have also had things stolen recently.

The institute is growing now with 270 students. Julie's conversation class usually runs about 5 students, but now has 15.

Encourage her with your prayers and with a note at jules.ann.rogers@gmail.com.

Joy Anglea, MD in Bangladesh

Joy Anglea, medical missionary with Baptist Mid-Missions, left January 15 for Bangladesh where she will assist in training some staff at the BMM hospital in Natore, speak to ladies, and hold mobile medical clinics. She and the group will also be taking medical equipment for the hospital. Dr. Anglea asks for specific prayer for safety and health while traveling, and that the group will be a blessing and encouragement to the people in Bangladesh.

Preparations continue for the March trip to Peru. Pray for God to handle both Stateside and Peru details.

Salvation in Spain

The new church in San Cugat, Spain, has moved into its fourth month. God has brought people into the church that have already gotten involved in ministry. Over 23 teens have attended youth group, and one has prayed for salvation! Pray for Dan to wisely disciple this new believer. As a result of a breakfast outreach in December, an unbeliever has asked to study the Bible with Dan.

Please pray for their walk with God, both individually and as a family, for direction and unity in the church leadership, for the salvation of several of their contacts, for the Portugal children's schooling, and for the studies on principles of growth and grace to be a blessing to the people.

Dan is attending a winter retreat in January. Amy is in the USA for a conference and family medical needs.



**FAMILY
BOWLING
EVENT**

–
March

Stay alert for more details coming soon!

Ukraine Missions Trip 2009

Community Bible Church of Easley, South Carolina along with SEND International (www.send.org) is looking to send a team of around 10 people back to the Black Sea Camp in Odessa, Ukraine. We will be continuing to build the camp dormitory that we started last summer and working with the orphans.

Jeff Young is leading the team. The trip will be in June 2009 and will last two weeks. The cost for the trip is yet to be determined, but has generally run around \$1800 to \$2100 per person in the past. This includes air fare, accommodations, food, and other fees associated with travel. We strongly encourage you to raise this support and will assist you in how to raise support for a mission trip.

If you are interested or would like to know more, please contact Jeff Young at 335-9472 or 238-2335.

Update from Papua New Guinea

From ACL knee reconstruction surgery for Brent, to thousands of miles of travel, and returning to the pilot's seat, 2008 was a memorable year for Brent and Hollie Dodd's family. They returned to Papua New Guinea in July 2008 where all in the family settled into life on the field. Victoria Brielle is even learning phrases in Melanesian Pidgin. Amber is doing well in her freshman year of school.

Andrew and Blake are graduating, Lord willing, from high school in May. Andrew is interested in dental hygiene, and Blake is planning on studying Bible in a one-year school. Hollie plans to travel to the States with them and Victoria Brielle for the summer. Pray that the Lord will guide their decisions and provide the necessary funds for travel.

Brent is thankful for the workable weather in his many hours of flying medivac and missionary transport flights. The aircraft have been free of mechanical difficulties. Thank you for praying for the flights. He plans to take his check ride to get his P.N.G. instrument rating. Pray for Brent as he studies and practices the different instrument approaches and procedures.

Good Things for the Browns

The Browns praise and thank the Lord for a good year of ministry in Johannesburg. The BMW South Africa team is growing, the MountainView church-plant is thriving, and the prayers and support have been steady. Continue to pray for the Lord's provision. Recently the Browns have been able to contact their neighbors for meals/cookouts. Pray for the Lord's work in their hearts.

Berean Bible Institute of South Africa has opened with eight students.