

SMALL CLOUD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PRESENTS ... CANDLE LIGHTS

"With God all things are possible." - Mark 10:27.

December 2003 - February 2004

Vol. 8, No. 2

P.O. Box 357, Wilton, CA 95693-0357

INTRODUCTION

The year 2003 is behind us and we are already well into the third quarter of school. Things are still changing around Small Cloud. As stated in our previous newsletter, the asphalt area of the school playground has been enlarged and the fence posts have been set. It is so nice for



Pillow makers (left to right): (front) David Pacheco, Shabad Jammu, Damaris Pacheco, Paea Inukiha'angana; (back) Kirissa Ellington, Kellie Hunter, Jazzmin Pluto, and Stephanie Knezovich

the students to be able to "stretch their wings" and have more room to spread out. Efforts are currently underway to create an orchard in front of the school.

"Giving Week" is a yearly tradition at Small Cloud. It takes place each year during the month of December and reminds the students that "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). During this week the students receive homework assignments all centering around the principle of giving to others. Each student made his or her own loaf of whole wheat bread to take home. The primaries made "munlies," a German sweet bread. The secondary class each made a pillow.

December also brought some unexpected news—Mrs. Schendel was diagnosed with breast cancer. We are very grateful to God that the tumor was operable. On December 26th a mastectomy was performed. After consulting an oncologist, Mrs. Schendel (with the support of her family) decided to forego chemotherapy and seek healing from God through the use of natural remedies. In January she underwent a 10-day colon, liver, gall bladder, and blood cleansing program and is currently seeking to rebuild her immune system by drinking a lot of fresh fruit and vegetable juices, avoiding sugar and processed foods, increasing water intake, exercising, spending time in the sun, and getting more sleep—especially before midnight. She is slowly regaining her strength and requests

your prayers for her complete healing, if this is God's will.

With Mrs. Schendel unable to drive at this time, Mr. Nelson has had to take over almost all the bus driving. How thankful we are that he now has his school bus license! God has been so good to us!

Eighth anniversary celebrations took place on January 24th. (For a description, see the article "Ninety-Six Months" on page 3. On page 4 there are instructions as

to how you can order a video of the anniversary program for yourself!)



Munlie makers (left to right): (front) Ariana Green and Devin Divoky; (back) Billy Ellington, Zoë Ellington, Andie Seely, Joshua Aguirre, and Shaylei Divoky

This year we found it necessary to add an additional class to accommodate our "middlers." Having them in the same class with the primaries just didn't work out anymore. Therefore, we decided to create a new classroom in the room that was previously being used for the office and move the office into the home next door, previously owned and occupied by Mr. Albert Schendel. The new office is at the end of the house closest to the school. To make the office assessible without having to walk through the main part of the house, a little remodeling



Mr. Christian Nelson cuts a hole in the wall to create a new entrance for the office.

was done. What had been the side door of the garage has now become the entrance to the office. We have found this new arrangement works very well. Praise God for all His blessings in our growth! ■

THE EXPLORATORIUM

(Field trip taken on February 19, 2004)

Note: The Exploratorium, located in San Francisco, CA, contains a wonderful collection of hands-on exhibits demonstrating various aspects of science.



Zoë Ellington (age 9): I liked the string that went up. A machine made it spin fast. I also liked the machine that flattened a penny and put a picture of the Exploratorium on it.



Billy Ellington (age 11): I liked the string with the machine that Zoë liked. I also liked the store.



Andie Seely (age 9): I liked the gift shop because there were lots of nice things—toys, gooey things, musical things, and bubble makers. I bought Goo Glow in the Dark. It's sticky and breaks very easily. It makes noise when you push it in and it smells like chemicals. I also liked the huge pipe that you scream into.



Shabad Jammu (age 12): I liked a chain that was really high. I could pull it and it would go back.



Paea Inukiha'angana (age 14): I liked it when this lady showed us something about the brain of a plant—the DNA. She put everything in perfectly—water, soap, base, rubbing alcohol, and grain. She stirred it and put the top layer of foam into a tube. She then added the alcohol and the DNA came up to the middle of the tube.



Tiffany Ellington (age 15): I liked using the computer. It would play a song. You would sing the song, and the computer would tell you if you are soprano, alto, tenor, or bass. Mrs. Seely was trying to make her voice very high to get a high voice. Then she started to scream. It was funny!

I also liked the computer where I played some songs on a piano that was attached to it. I played some songs that I've been learning for my piano class—"The Grasshopper," "Diving," "Hush, Little Baby," and "Ding Dong." The computer would show me what notes I was playing.



Kirissa Ellington (age 13): I liked the long tunnel thing because I like to scream. I also liked seeing the chicken embryos; they are very interesting. During lunchtime, I was feeding the birds. I asked Mrs. Seely if I could catch a bird and she gave me permission. I caught it, but it scratched me because it didn't like that!



Jazzmin Pluto (age 15): I enjoyed taking pictures of our shadows that we made in the shadow box. It took thirty seconds to find your pose. Then at two seconds a sound went off and then a light flashed. As soon as you turned around, you saw your own shadow. I don't know how they did it, but I quite enjoyed it and did it more than once.



Stephanie Knezovich (age 16): We went in a big, dark boxy thing. It had black lights in it that affected the colors of your clothes. The white on your clothes got really bright. They also had a mirror so you could see your teeth very, very white.

PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

by Paea Inukiha'angana, age 14

The improvements around Small Cloud have been going very well. The fence posts are already going up and I'm helping to put them in. We put the gravel mix next to the side of the barn so we can walk on it instead of on the dirt.

The sprinklers are almost done. We just have to put the heads on and bury the pipes. The teachers would like to add two tetherball poles and a basketball goal. With God's help we can have grass to run on instead of dirt. Overall it is really starting to look like a playground.



STUDYING GOD'S MYSTERIES

by Jazzmin Pluto, age 14

Poof! Oops! Another science experiment gone wrong! Not all science is just about exploding things.

In one of my labs I studied about how oxygen can be burned up. I observed that oxygen can be burned up by getting a candle and putting a long cylinder over it. When this happens, the candle burns out when all the oxygen has been burned up. It's amazing what science can teach you!

In addition to that, I'm studying the six main gases in our atmosphere. What? You thought we breathe only oxygen? Wrong! Nitrogen, argon, radon, helium, oxygen and carbon dioxide are the main gases we breathe. Hey! You learn something new everyday!

If you take just a moment to think about all those gases we breathe, it's quite amazing. There are a lot of mysteries in the world God made. He wants us to figure out what some of those mysteries are.



ACROSTICS



Kindness and mercy Thou showest each day.
 I will obey everything Thou sayest, for Thou wilt
 Reward all that I do. Thou wilt
 Reward me for good or for bad.
 I shall praise Thee, O Lord; for Thou art merciful to me; Thou
 Satisfiest me with all Thy wonders
 And in my troubles Thou counselest me.

Each day Thou givest me
 Light, peace, joy, comfort and
 Love. Thou never forsakest me.
 I will praise Thee, O Lord; for Thou art good,
 Never forsake me, for I will perish without
 God. I depend on You.
 Thou art my strength; Thou art everything I need.
 O Lord, Thou art powerful and almighty.
 Never forsake me, for I'm nothing without Thee.

— Kirissa Ellington, age 13

Kind and gentle
 Everything new
 Little and
 Live
 In God's
 Eyes which are under

Heaven
 United.
 Nobody unjustly
 To
 Everlasting life
 Refused.

— Kellie Hunter, age 13

NINETY-SIX MONTHS

by Mrs. Sandy Nelson

The moment had come—January 24, 2004. They had practiced long and hard. Now it was time for the students themselves to tell the story of how their school, which is anything but ordinary, began.



Two lines of students—each entering from opposite sides at the back of the classroom—merged and took their places in front of the audience, all the while singing "My God is so great, so strong and so mighty; there's nothing my God cannot do—for you!"

January! Who would start a school in January? Who would send their kids to school in a barn? Four young female students narrated a specially-prepared slide show telling the short story of how Small Cloud Christian School began and grew.

Then the ten students continued singing loud and clear, "God will make a way, where there seems to be no way. He works in ways we cannot see. . . ."

Many prayers were sent heavenward and slowly the donations trickled in. The remodeling of the school was

another work of faith. But we serve the God of the universe, the One who "owns the cattle on a thousand hills."

"Thou art worthy, oh Lord. For Thou hast created, hast all things created," sang the students.

Each year seems to bring its own peculiar challenges, trials, blessings—and activity. Chuckles and sighs filled the room as the slides then shifted from pictures of construction and remodeling to action pictures of the other members of the Small Cloud "family." It's already been eight years, but really it's only the beginning.

Our God's praises continued to be sung: "The Lord is my light and my salvation. Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?"

"Amazing Grace" can never be sung too many times.



Traditional at Small Cloud, it tells the experience of all of us who have given our lives to Jesus Christ. "I once was lost, but now I'm found—was blind, but now I see." Amazing, amazing grace!

As we closed with a prayer, one could clearly hear the youngest member of the audience complaining loudly. What was she saying? "More songs, Mommy! More songs!" ■

WANT TO HELP US? HERE'S HOW!

VIDEO AVAILABLE

After reading the article by Mrs. Sandy Nelson on page three, would you be interested in seeing the anniversary celebrations for yourself? Well, here is your chance!

An amateur video was made of the event and is now available upon request. The price is only \$7.50 per video (plus \$2.50 postage).

To order your video(s), please fill out the information below. Then send your order to:

Small Cloud Christian School
P.O. Box 357
Wilton, CA 95693-0357

We look forward to receiving your requests!

VIDEO REQUEST	
8th Anniversary—Small Cloud Christian School	
Number of videos	_____
Total cost (Number of videos x \$7.50)	\$ _____
Shipping and handling	+ \$ 2.50
Total amount enclosed	\$ _____
Name	_____
Address	_____
City, State, Zip	_____

INK CARTRIDGE RECYCLING

For those of you who own inkjet printers and live locally, here is a way you can help us.

For each ink cartridge recycled we receive \$3.00. You may bring your expended cartridges to the school or you may send them with one of our staff members or students. Mailing them would probably be too costly.

QUALITY OF LIFE CARDS

If you have not yet received your Quality of Life card from us, be sure to request one soon. What is a Quality of Life card? It is a card issued by the Raleys/Bel Air/Nob Hill grocery stores which pays a percentage of your purchases to the charity you designate. All you have to do is register your card on-line at www.raleys.com or www.nobhill.com. Go to "lifestyle," click on "scrip program," and follow the instructions for "new guests." Select "Small Cloud Christian School" as the organization of your choice.

Present your card to the check-out clerk each time you shop *before the sale is final*. **Note: If you forget to give the cashier your card before the sale has been completed, you will not be able to receive credit for the purchase.**

Since Small Cloud is registered with this company, each time you use your registered card, you donate to the school. Since signing up with this program on September 24, 2003, we have received \$158.93. To all of you who have been using your cards, thank you very much!

Using our password we are able to go on the web and check the amounts coming in from each card. In doing so we have noticed, however, that some cards we issued do not show any activity. This could mean only one of two things: 1) either the person who received the card is not using it, or 2) the person has not properly registered the card. So if you haven't done so already, please go on the web and make sure your card is properly registered. (See the website address above.)

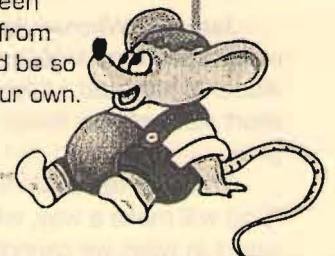
Thank you so much for your support!



WISH LIST

Do you have a digital camera you are planning to replace? Small Cloud could really use a digital camera to take pictures of its students for publication in the newsletter. This is a very convenient way to obtain pictures since it eliminates the scanning process.

So far we have been borrowing a camera from someone, but it would be so much nicer to have our own.



Small Cloud Christian School is a nonprofit organization dedicated to leading children of every race, color, nationality, ethnicity, gender and creed to the knowledge of a living God.

WANT TO HELP US? HERE'S HOW!

VIDEO AVAILABLE

After reading the article by Mrs. Sandy Nelson on page three, would you be interested in seeing the anniversary celebrations for yourself? Well, here is your chance!

An amateur video was made of the event and is now available upon request. The price is only \$7.50 per video (plus \$2.50 postage).

To order your video(s), please fill out the information below. Then send your order to:

Small Cloud Christian School
P.O. Box 357
Wilton, CA 95693-0357

We look forward to receiving your requests!

VIDEO REQUEST	
8th Anniversary—Small Cloud Christian School	
Number of videos	_____
Total cost (Number of videos x \$7.50)	\$ _____
Shipping and handling	+ \$ 2.50
Total amount enclosed	\$ _____
Name	_____
Address	_____
City, State, Zip	_____

INK CARTRIDGE RECYCLING

For those of you who own inkjet printers and live locally, here is a way you can help us.

For each ink cartridge recycled we receive \$3.00. You may bring your expended cartridges to the school or you may send them with one of our staff members or students. Mailing them would probably be too costly.

QUALITY OF LIFE CARDS

If you have not yet received your Quality of Life card from us, be sure to request one soon. What is a Quality of Life card? It is a card issued by the Raleys/Bel Air/Nob Hill grocery stores which pays a percentage of your purchases to the charity you designate. All you have to do is register your card on-line at www.raleys.com or www.nobhill.com. Go to "lifestyle," click on "scrip program," and follow the instructions for "new guests." Select "Small Cloud Christian School" as the organization of your choice.

Present your card to the check-out clerk each time you shop *before the sale is final*. Note: If you forget to give the cashier your card before the sale has been completed, you will not be able to receive credit for the purchase.

Since Small Cloud is registered with this company, each time you use your registered card, you donate to the school. Since signing up with this program on September 24, 2003, we have received \$158.93. To all of you who have been using your cards, thank you very much!

Using our password we are able to go on the web and check the amounts coming in from each card. In doing so we have noticed, however, that some cards we issued do not show any activity. This could mean only one of two things: 1) either the person who received the card is not using it, or 2) the person has not properly registered the card. So if you haven't done so already, please go on the web and make sure your card is properly registered. (See the website address above.)

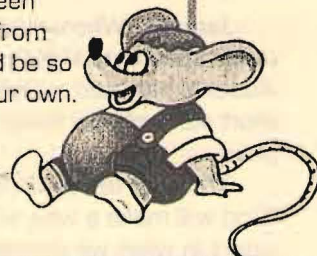
Thank you so much for your support!



WISH LIST

Do you have a digital camera you are planning to replace? Small Cloud could really use a digital camera to take pictures of its students for publication in the newsletter. This is a very convenient way to obtain pictures since it eliminates the scanning process.

So far we have been borrowing a camera from someone, but it would be so much nicer to have our own.



Small Cloud Christian School is a nonprofit organization dedicated to leading children of every race, color, nationality, ethnicity, gender and creed to the knowledge of a living God.