

# SMALL CLOUD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PRESENTS . . .

## SMALL CLOUD CHRONICLES

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

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### GIFTS, ARRIVALS, TRIPS, AND CELEBRATIONS

In Acts 20:35 we read: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." As is customary here at Small Cloud, the students participated in "Giving Week" during the month of December. They watched videos that tell the histories of some of our great hymns. They also watched the inspiring video entitled "Emmanuel's Gift," telling the life story of a disabled man in Ghana.

The students also had an opportunity to help the needy through organizations such as Heifer International, World Vision, and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). Sample dollar amounts showed how much a donation can accomplish: \$1.00 pays for a hot meal for an orphan in Namibia; \$5.00 will buy a pair of shoes for a child in Venezuela; \$9.00 feeds a hungry baby for one week; \$10.00 provides a poor family with a dozen baby chicks; \$35.00 provides one month's care for an orphan. As the Scriptures tell us in Psalm 82:3, "Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy."

January 1 ushered in a brand-new year—2008. How will this new year affect each one of us? One thing is certain: Christ's second coming is getting closer each and every day. Are we ready to meet Him? Are we willing to suffer for Him? Do we truly know what we

believe and why? Can we substantiate our position from the Scriptures? "With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained,

might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world!"—Ellen G. White, *Education* (Review and Herald Publishing Association), p. 271. Pray that Small Cloud may be instrumental in raising up missionaries for Jesus.

In January we happily welcomed to Small Cloud Miss Reyna Conde from Toronto, Canada. Miss Conde, who has majored in languages and speaks four fluently (English, Spanish, French, and Italian) was sent to Small Cloud in the hopes that she will take what she learns here to start a church school in Cedartown, Georgia. The plan is that she stay until school lets out in June, learning the basics of how to manage a multigrade elementary school.

Our 12th annual school anniversary was celebrated on January 26. Everyone who attended was blessed as the many miracles that brought Small Cloud into existence were retold by teachers and staff. The students blessed the

o c c a s i o n with hymns of praise, sung with great enthusiasm. The p r o g r a m concluded with everyone joining in the hymn "Amazing

Grace," the favorite hymn of the late Albert Schendel, who originally provided the facilities for Small Cloud.

California Caverns was our destination on February 12. The students toured the cave, panned for gemstones, and enjoyed a picnic lunch.



Choosing a helmet to wear before entering California Caverns (L to R: Mikey Petrovich, Andie Seely, Kellie Hunter, and Miss Reyna Conde)

Although staying very busy here at Small Cloud, Mrs. Nelson and Mrs. Seely have a burden to help other people learn how to provide Christian education for their children. So they responded to an invitation to give a presentation in New York. Leaving on Thursday, February 14, they flew to New York City for the weekend, taking only Maya (Mrs. Seely's youngest foster child, who was too young to leave behind—see page 2) and Miss Ellington, who helped care for Maya. We pray the words of the teachers will make a lasting impact on their listeners and prompt parents to choose a God-centered education for their children.

Since Mrs. Schendel is kept very busy with her two-year, intense cancer-healing program and is no longer able to drive for us, we greatly needed another bus driver. We were very happy, therefore, when Mr. Mike Alford recently passed his bus driving test with the California Highway Patrol. Praise God for providing help! ■



Students, Miss Ellington, and Miss Conde gathered in front of our Small Cloud bus with Mrs. Sandy Nelson in the driver's seat

## SMALL MINDS OR GREAT MINDS (Part I)

by Gabriel Bendezu, age 13

It is best to spend our time exercising our brains by thinking about new things or coming up with ideas for what can be done next. People who do this have great minds. But some people like to waste time talking about other people. Those who gossip have small minds.

I would like to use an example of someone who used his mind well. George W. Carver was always in his lab using his time well. He was always coming up with new ideas, not wasting his time talking about people. That's how he invented so many things from the peanut. He used his mind well.

Now here is another example I will use to show small minds. In *People* magazine, people spend their time talking about what somebody was wearing or saying. They don't say anything useful. They just waste their time. They don't focus on the important things in life.

I personally recommend using your mind well for important stuff. That's how I want to use mine. What I want to be when I grow up is an electrician or landscape architect. For those jobs you need to think and focus on what you are doing. Today I want to start training my brain to think of good things.

In life you will have to choose how you want to use your mind. The easier choice is to not use it well, but the best choice is to use it well. I want to use my mind well and think about ideas because in the future they will help me to do well. If I sit around talking about people, I'm just wasting time; and I won't get any benefit from it. So let's start using our brains today!



## THE STORY OF WILLIAM TYNDALE

by Mikey Petrovich, age 10

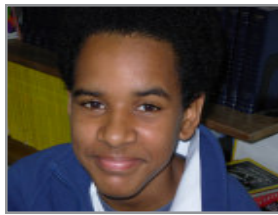
William Tyndale was a brave man. In England he took the risk to translate the Bible into English. He didn't want to get caught, so he went to Germany. The king of England wanted Tyndale to come to his palace, but Tyndale refused to go.



Then the king got angry. He told his soldiers to arrest William, but he got away. In the end, William got caught and was burned at the stake, but his story lives on.

## SMALL MINDS OR GREAT MINDS (PART II)

by Chris Lamb, age 14



Do you wonder sometimes if you have a great mind or a small mind? Do you know what the difference is between a great mind or a small mind? Well, that's what I'll be talking about in this brief essay.

A great mind is one that thinks about ideas. An example of this is George W. Carver. He didn't waste his time on childish things. He thought outside of the box, and that's what great minds do. They don't wait for opportunities to come to them; they look for opportunities.

People with small minds talk about people. It seems like they have nothing else to do. They are so focused on talking about others, it seems like they have no lives of their own.

Which mind do you want to have—great or small? To me, the greatest thing in life is to have a great mind. Small-minded people probably won't get anywhere in life. So what kind of mind do you have?

## AND THEN . . . THERE WERE SIX!

The 2007 Thanksgiving season brought much joy and thankfulness to the Seely family. Whereas a family of three had been living in the Seely home, their family suddenly doubled in number, with the addition of three little girls—Veronica (age 6), Alyssa (age 4), and Maya (age 2). Mr. and Mrs. Seely had been waiting for quite some time to add more children to their family. They have already adopted Quinn (age 19), who is now grown and out of the house, and Andie (age 13), who attends Small Cloud.



"Busy" is an understatement for Mrs. Seely as she cares for her three charges (whom the Seelys hope to adopt) while continuing to teach at Small Cloud.

# PIONEERING A NEW LANGUAGE

by Jantée Webster, age 17

**A**ugusta Ada Byron King, countess of Lovelace, also known as Ada, was a smart young lady. She was born and raised in London in 1815. Ada became one of the few woman mathematicians of her time. She was also the world's first computer programmer. Ada was so famous that, after her death, the U.S. Department of Defense named one of its computer languages, Ada, after her.

She was, as we can imagine, very smart for her age. When she was only five years old, she was able to add six rows of numbers together. Before she turned thirteen, she was studying geometry. Instead of going to plays or parties like most girls her age were doing, she spent time with her tutor studying math and science.

One day Ada met a young man named Charles Babbage, who was also a scientist, mathematician, and inventor. Ada found his work rather interesting and wanted to work with him on some of his inventions. After working with Charles Babbage on numerous things, she started to see his downfall. He was very disorganized. Later on, Ada met a young

man named William King (Count Lovelace), and they instantly fell in love with each other. Ada signed her work A.A.L. after marrying Lovelace. Unfortunately, Ada became sick with cancer and died in 1852. More than 100 years later we still use some of Ada's inventions. She will never be forgotten.



Stephen Nelson is just one of many students who love to ride the scooters.



Meet Tornado, one of Small Cloud's farm animals.



Veronica Merrill and Megan Petrovich enjoy the outdoors.

... AN SCCS FAVORITE

## WHITE BEAN DIP

(This recipe was provided by student Jonathan Garcia, whose father is a chef.)

- 3 cans white beans
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves
- 1 tsp. salt

Drain white beans and blend them with garlic cloves. Add olive oil and salt and blend into a smooth paste. Serve warm or cold on crackers or bread.



This is a new piece of playground equipment the children are enjoying.

## YUMMY! YUMMY!

(Written by Miss Conde after her interview with the following students: Christian Renteria, Mariana Cardenas, Mikey Petrovich, and Davey Petrovich)

No celebration is ever complete without food, so some refreshments and delicious appetizers were provided to the guests who attended Small Cloud's annual anniversary celebration. The food that was laid out on the table looked really good.



There was a variety of dips, including a superb artichoke one made by Jonathan. Different crackers, bread and a wonderful assortment of cookies to choose from complemented a nutritious platter of veggies.

All in all, the evening of January 26th proved to be a blessing.

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*(A creative writing assignment describing a photograph of a toucan)*

## TOUCANS

by Mikey Petrovich, age 10



At the zoo we saw a building with a sign that said, "Toucans here." Curious, we stopped, wondering what was inside. So we went in. There in the middle of the room stood a magnificent bird. Its long yellow beak shown in all its glory. Its blue eyes sparkled in the sunlight. It was a beautiful toucan with golden feathers gleaming in the sun. All the time at the zoo, I thought about that magnificent creature.

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## MISSING NEWSLETTERS FOUND!

We are delighted to tell you that one of our faithful subscribers has contacted us to say he has most of our missing newsletters. Yeah! We asked him to send us copies. Thank you so much, Dan!

We are still missing two issues: July/August 2000 and July/August 2002. Anybody out there happen to have these issues? If so, please contact us at [smallcloudchristianschool@yahoo.com](mailto:smallcloudchristianschool@yahoo.com).

## CREATURES OF THE SEA

by Mariana Cardenas, age 11  
(assisted by Miss Conde)



Dolphins like to jump and play,  
"Squeak, squeak, squeak," they go all day.  
Under waterfalls they go,  
Over waves and down below.  
Blue and gray they tend to be,  
Smooth-skinned creatures of the sea.

## THE PARENTING CORNER

Life in the cities is false and artificial. The intense passion for money getting, the whirl of excitement and pleasure seeking, the thirst for display, the luxury and extravagance—all are forces that, with the great masses of mankind, are turning the mind from life's true purpose. They are opening the door to a thousand evils. Upon the youth they have almost irresistible power.

"One of the most subtle and dangerous temptations that assails the children and youth in the cities is the love of pleasure." - Ellen G. White, *Ministry of Healing* (Review and Herald Publishing Association), p. 364.

