

SMALL CLOUD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PRESENTS . . .

SMALL CLOUD CHRONICLES

(FORMERLY "CANDLE LIGHTS")

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

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the first edition of "Small Cloud Chronicles," formerly called "Candle Lights." Ten years! A whole decade! It is hard to believe that Small Cloud Christian School opened its doors that long ago. To celebrate the event and thank God for His guidance and sustenance, all friends and former students of Small Cloud were invited to a buffet dinner on Sunday, January 22nd. Items on the menu included barbecued tofu and macaroni & chee. We were very happy to see ten of our former students at the dinner held that evening, and were thrilled to receive updates on six others.

Mrs. Seely, with the help of Mike Alford, put together a DVD presentation showing how God has blessed the school and how it has progressed over the years. (This DVD will be available for purchase at the end of June, 2006.) A total of 85 students have been educated here, some spending only a few months and others several years. It is our prayer that God will water the seeds of truth that are sown in the hearts of our students and that they will choose to follow the Lord.

As you can see from the picture, our student body has changed since the last newsletter was sent out. As mentioned last time, Kellie has returned and Brittany has joined the Small Cloud family. Also, Shabad was sent to a boarding school in India, and his brother, AJ, has taken his place at Small Cloud.

Stephen, our little "preschooler," usually has his "lessons" in the house with his grandma, Mrs. Schendel, who takes care of him while Mrs. Nelson teaches. He started crawling a short

time ago, or maybe it should be termed "lurching," since he propelled himself forward much like an elephant seal. (If you have never seen an elephant seal, may we recommend that you visit Año Nuevo on the California coast. There the elephant seals come ashore to breed and raise their pups.) Now Stephen is finally getting the hang of actual crawling on hands and knees.

Thank you to those who took the time to let us know that you enjoy the newsletter and want to continue receiving it. Some of you expressed the desire to receive the newsletter via e-mail. You will be happy to know that Mike Alford has been working on this project, and we will attempt to email this issue of Small Cloud Chronicles to those who have requested it.

We have now deleted from our mailing list most of those who did not respond to our request, but please note that we will happily send it to anyone who is interested in receiving it. If you hear of anyone who wishes to again be placed on our mailing list, please inform us of that at (916) 687-8329 or email us at smallcloud@juno.com. ■



Photo taken February 28, 2006

MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY

by Kellie Hunter, age 15

Hil I am Kellie Hunter, and I am a freshman at Small Cloud Christian School. My birthday is December 21, 1990. I live in Elk Grove with my wonderful aunt and uncle.

I have lived with them for ten years now, and it's great! They are training me to be the best that I can be, and they're teaching me about Christ and salvation and how to grow up and become a good Christian young lady. I love my aunt and uncle and everything they do for me.

My favorite food at Small Cloud is perogen, which is pretty much the only dish with tofu in it that I'll eat there. At home I enjoy homemade macaroni and cheese.

There are two subjects in school that I absolutely love studying, and they are algebra and physical science. (And I didn't just put algebra in here to make Mrs. Nelson happy.) I really like doing algebra and using the

formulas to figure out my answers. I also love solving equations, even though setting them up to solve word problems can be difficult at times. If you make one mistake, the whole problem is wrong from that point on. It's a lot of fun.

Now in physical science I love learning about the elements and all the models of atoms and the different people who thought of the models. I also love doing labs.

When I graduate from high school, I want to study to be either a nurse or a veterinarian. My favorite animal is the horse. I love helping sick and injured animals. Whenever we have a large animal with an injury, I'm right on it with some cotton and betadine. If the injury is to the leg, I'm also out there with some vet wrap and a cream to help it heal.

This is who I am—a little snapshot of my life and what I want to do with it. ■



BRITTANY!

by Brittany Newell, age 13

My name is Brittany Newell, and I am a new student at Small Cloud Christian School. This is my first time ever going to a private school. I am in the eighth grade. I was formerly a student at Katherine Albiani Middle School.

It was there that I found out that I would be attending Small Cloud for the remainder of my eighth-grade year.

Small Cloud is extremely different from public schools. For example, Small Cloud has only nine students and so I have only that many friends.

At my public schools, I had "millions"

of friends. I don't think you can be friendless at a public school. The people at Small Cloud are friendly, and the teachers are very caring. But I like public school better.

I was born on September 21, 1992, at El Camino Hospital in San Jose. My favorite foods are pizza, ice cream, soda, watermelon, and hot dogs. I have many hobbies, but I can't think of any right now. I am good at drawing. I asked some people what they think of me and this is what they said:

Mrs. Nelson said I am fun, loud, entertaining, friendly, curious, honest, silly, and caring.

Mrs. Seely said I have a good sense of humor and that I am bright, friendly, likeable, helpful, and creative.

Mrs. Schendel said that the one word she'd use to describe me is energetic.

Andie Seely said I am funny, nice, bossy, and helpful. She said I will make a good mom someday! ■



ABOUT ME

by AJ Jammu, age 15

My name is AJ. I am Shabad's big brother. I am going to tell you a little about myself, what I like and what I don't.

First of all, for all the people who don't know, my brother, Shabad, went to India. My parents thought it would be a good idea for him to go to a boarding school. So far, he says he doesn't like it too much. My dad says

Shabad will get used to it after a while. Good luck to him!

Now, about me. I am from the Bay Area. I am not really into liking school, and so my favorite subjects would have to be recess, lunch, and P.E. If I have to pick a real subject, it would probably be math.

Before I came to Small Cloud I attended Harriet Eddy Middle

School for seventh and eighth grades and started Laguna Creek High School for ninth grade.

My hobbies are cars, sports (especially basketball and football), and hanging out with my friends. I want to become an automotive engineer when I'm older.

I love cars! They are my life! I can't wait until I get my own car. ■

Editor's Note: This is a picture of Shabad (AJ's brother, who attended Small Cloud before being sent to a boarding school in India).



PROGRAM REPORT

WAMOOLA UPDATE

Small Cloud recently received a check from WaMoola for Schools. In the WaMoola for Schools® program, a point is earned every time someone makes a purchase with their enrolled Washington Mutual Debit MasterCard® or Visa® Check Card. At the end of the calendar year, those points are converted to cash. Small Cloud received a check for \$45.66 for the points earned in 2005. Thank you to those who have been participating in this program. Your support is very much appreciated.

For anyone else who wishes to enroll, but has not yet done so, the process is very simple. If you are already a Washington Mutual checking customer with a Visa® Check Card, just go to wamoolaforschools.com and choose our school. Or call 1-866-WAMOOLA. Enrollment in the program is absolutely free. If you need a Washington Mutual Visa® Check Card, you can open a checking account at any Washington Mutual Financial Center. To find the one nearest you, call 1-800-788-7000 or search on-line at wamu.com. ■

. . . AN SCCS FAVORITE

CABBAGE & NOODLES

2 cups thinly sliced onions
1/4 cup (or less) vegetable oil
1½ tsp. paprika
8 cups finely shredded cabbage (about 1½ pounds)
2 tsp. salt
12 ounces fine or medium-wide noodles
A dollop of Tofutti Sour Cream (optional)

In a pot with a tight lid, cook the onions in the oil on medium heat until golden—about 15 minutes. Add the paprika and sauté for a few seconds more. Stir in the cabbage. Add the salt, and continue to cook for five more minutes, stirring now and then. Cover tightly and cook on very low heat for 40 to 60 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the cabbage is very soft and brown.

When the cabbage is almost done, cook the noodles in boiling water until al dente. Drain. Serve the cabbage over the noodles with a dollop of Tofutti Sour Cream (serves 4).

NATIVE AMERICAN HARVEST

by Ian Broom, age 9



A long time ago, in a Coastal Miwok tribe, a little girl helped her father harvest acorns. She was tired. She had been helping her father all day. That evening, she went to get a basket of acorns that her father ordered her to gather before dusk. The basket of acorns was huge. It had to be 150 pounds! So she asked her father to get it instead. They gave it to her mother so she could pound the acorns and cook them into mush to eat. ■

Editor's Note: Ian is studying California tribes. One of his assignments was to write a short story about an acorn harvest.

CREATIVE WRITING ASSIGNMENT: Describe your favorite place.

ON TOP OF MY HOUSE

by Ariana Green, age 11

There is a place on top of my house where I like to go—where the wind blows extra special, just for me. When I climb on top of my house at night, I see so many bright stars. In the middle of the sky, the moon looks so shiny and big. It feels like I can reach out and grab it and keep it forever. That is why on top of my house is the best place on earth. ■



WYOMING

by Stephanie Knezovich, age 18

Wyoming is a great place to visit. As soon as you arrive, you are greeted with clean, fresh air and nicely scented flowers.

Beautiful mountains, in varying shades of color with tall, green trees, surround you. Soft chirps, the songs of birds, sound like music from heaven when they touch your ears. Soft whispers, snorts, and the gentle neighs of horses soothe your soul. Walking toward the barn, you feel

the lush green grass, soft as a baby's skin, slip between your toes.

When you are hungry, there are awesome restaurants to choose from.

For your meal you can have creamy soups and crisp salads. For dessert, you can try ice cream and a delicate strawberry cheesecake.

Don't you think you would like to visit Wyoming too? ■



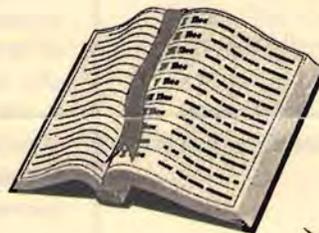
Editor's Note: Congratulations to Stephanie, who just celebrated her 18th birthday!

TEN THINGS THE TWO TEACHERS HAVE LEARNED OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS

1. God's ways are BEST!
2. Sometimes God says, "No."
3. God expects us to do *all* we can—He does what we cannot.
4. There's never been a student we haven't loved. Of course, some of them have challenged us more than others.
5. *Every* student has great potential when his/her life is given to our Creator.



Mrs. Seely



Mrs. Nelson

6. God loves to surprise us.
7. Never say, "Never."
8. We can't change hearts, but God can.
9. You don't quit learning just because you're a teacher.
(Hopefully, you are a few lessons ahead of your students, but many times our students have taught us!)
10. What we considered obstacles were really opportunities.

WISH LIST

Some of you who attended our last annual Thanksgiving Dinner may have noticed that our tables are all of different shapes and sizes. This is because many of them were donated to us by the Elk Grove School District from its surplus items. The tables have served us well over the past several years. However, since they do not fold up, they are very hard to store, and some must be set out on our back porch. Not only do they take up a lot of room, but they also invite insects like bees and wasps to make their home there.

We would very much like to replace these tables with folding tables from Costco, Item #772544. The price of each table is \$49.99. If you would be able to purchase a table for us or make a donation toward this project, it would be very much appreciated. ■



THE PARENTING CORNER

“Unitedly and prayerfully the father and mother should bear the grave responsibility of guiding their children aright. It is chiefly upon the mother that the work of child training devolves, but the father should not become so absorbed in business life or in the study of books that he cannot take time to study the natures and necessities of his children. He should help in devising ways by which they may be kept busy in useful labor agreeable to their varying dispositions.” - *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, pp. 127-128 (by Ellen G. White, Review and Herald Publishing Association). ■

