

SMALL CLOUD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PRESENTS . . .

SMALL CLOUD CHRONICLES

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

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HERE'S WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

A duck dissection? Yes, that's what most of the students either did or observed being done. You see, one of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson's ducks met with a mishap—a fox, perhaps? Or maybe a coyote? No one saw or heard anything, but one morning there was a dead duck lying on the ground.

For some reason, the predator had not eaten—just killed—the duck. So Kellie, our budding veterinarian, immediately suggested a dissection on the body. Since the duck was her pet, Mrs. Nelson opted not to attend. She and one other student remained in the classroom as Mrs. Seely supervised the procedure on the ground outside. Donning gloves, the rest of the students greatly enjoyed this hands-on science project. What did they learn?

Sarah: "I liked looking at the different parts of a duck! It was very interesting. We saw its heart, lungs, stomach, and kidneys. Its kidneys looked a lot like kidney beans! The many eggs of a duck are located in the abdominal region. The egg—before the shell forms or hardens—looks like the inside of a chicken egg. I enjoyed learning about where the different parts of a duck are located!"

Kellie: "I learned the anatomy of a duck. I also learned that female ducks have a lot of eggs inside of them. And, to add to what Sarah said, we got to see the bones, and we also learned that ducks have tiny teeth."

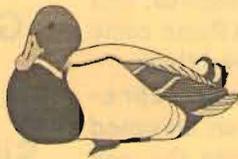
Brittany: "I didn't go to the dissection because I didn't want to watch a duck get butchered! I also felt bad for the duck; the poor thing probably expected to get a funeral and a wonderful burial, but all it got was to be Kellie's science project."

AJ: "I learned that there is juice inside the egg!"

Andie: "I ripped open the ribs, and everyone went 'Eew!' I don't get sick to my stomach. I saw the heart. It was fun. We tore out an egg and popped it open."

Andy: "I learned that the duck has a sack of eggs and a heart."

Paea, our school undertaker, then buried the unfortunate duck.



NICHOLSON GLASS BLOWING

Auburn, California, was our destination for a field trip on April 20th. There we visited a home-based, glassblowing company. But it was very different from the glassblowing several of us had seen before. Instead of delicate little ships, bugs, etc., this master craftsman created a beautiful glass bowl. He began with a chunk of glass on the end of a long rod, heating the glass over and over in a

glowing oven. Spinning the rod, he shaped the glass while his assistant added other colors of glass from time to time. Heavier and heavier the soon-to-be-bowl became. Finally, blowing into the tube, the craftsman expanded this glass creation into a beautiful, colorful bowl. We got a quick look at it before it was placed in a kiln to be slowly cooled. Be sure to take a look at the pictures on the last page.

MEOOW!

Brittany had a home project she brought to school—six little kittens. Fearful that their dog would kill the kittens when no one was home, Brittany brought them to school and fed them out of a tiny bottle every few hours. Although they seemed to be growing well, only one has survived. There is a picture on the last page of Brittany feeding one of her babies.

OPEN HOUSE (May 25th)

After the united recitation of Psalm 100, the students sang and/or gave individual presentations. Using Andie as her simulated choking victim, Stephanie demonstrated a first-aid procedure—the Heimlich maneuver. Brittany gave a cooking demonstration, using a blender to make a special drink. The audience enjoyed sampling a cup of her "Strawberry Frost."

Our part-time students, Andy and Mikey Petrovich, dressed as the Wright brothers, spoke about the inventions of those famous men. Andie, dressed as an Indian maiden, told about Sacajawea, the famous guide for Lewis and Clark.

With the sound of a gong (produced by two stainless steel bowls), Sarah began her speech about Japan. Carrying a parasol and dressed in a Japanese costume she had made herself (with the help of her mother), she spoke about this Far East country.

Ian gave a very nice presentation about California missions. He had prepared a poster board with pictures of various missions and had even built a beautiful mission model out of craft sticks, felt, and cardboard.

Kellie presented a different kind of speech. She had spent many hours preparing a DVD about Germany. Included were German background music, pictures of various places in Germany, and her own narration.

Following the students' presentations, refreshments were served. The students had made crackers earlier that day, so there was a large tray of them. There was also an attractive arrangement of grapes and strawberries, as well as juice to drink.

Our students did well, and we are very proud of them! ■

SEASONED WITH SALT

by Kellie Hunter, age 15

Speech is a gift. Everything we say can either hurt or encourage people. God tells us to speak kindly, to let our speech "be always with grace, seasoned with salt" (Colossians 4:6).



When we curse or say bad things with the gift God gave us, we might encourage others to curse. But when we say nice and kind things, we can inspire people to say nice and kind things also.

If we are true Christians, we love Christ. We will not take the Lord's name in vain and break the third commandment. When we come to God, we come to Him just as we are—sinful. And then He alters us little by little.

So before you say something, think if it will hurt people or encourage them.

Editor's Note: Kellie's picture shows her singing at Open House.

CREATIVE WRITING PROJECT—CHARACTER SKETCH

KATE SHELLEY

by Andie Seely, age 11

Have you ever had a scary night? Kate Shelley had one.

Kate had beautiful brown eyes and long, brown hair. She was tall and thin. She was fifteen years old when this story happened.

One night there was a terrible storm. The barn flooded. Kate let all the animals out of the barn so they wouldn't drown. Kate thought about the bridge nearby. Was it safe? She was worried about the railroad men and whether or not the bridge would hold up in the storm. She decided to go check. Her mom did not want her to go. Kate said,

"If that were Father down there, wouldn't you want someone to help?"

Kate went to the bridge. She thought she heard some men calling out, "Help!" The bridge had broken and the train had fallen into the river. The men needed help. Kate ran through the rain all the way to the railroad station. She was scared. She told the people there about the men in the river. They were rescued. Then everyone was happy.

Kate was so brave. Do you think you could be that brave?



KINGDOM TIMELINE

by AJ Jammu, age 15

One night, God gave King Nebuchadnezzar a dream. The dream was about a statue of a man. This man had a golden head, a silver chest, bronze hips, iron legs, and clay and iron feet. Suddenly, a stone appeared and destroyed the statue.

King Nebuchadnezzar asked what it meant. Daniel told him that the statue represented the order of the world kingdoms that would rule before Jesus comes. Later, God gave Daniel a dream showing these four kingdoms as beasts.

Babylon was the strongest of all the kingdoms. On the statue, the head of gold represented this kingdom. In Daniel's dream it was represented by a lion with wings. The lion is the king of the beasts, and Babylon was the "king" of kingdoms. Its wings showed that it conquered swiftly. Babylon ruled from 605 BC to 539 BC. It was defeated when the Babylonians all got drunk and let their guard down. Then Medo-Persia came and took over.

Medo-Persia was two kingdoms in one. On the statue it was represented by the chest of silver. In Daniel's dream it was a bear with three ribs in its mouth. One of its shoulders is higher than the other. This meant that one side of the kingdom was stronger. In this case, the Persians were stronger than the Medes. The ribs in the bear's mouth represented the three countries that were treated the worst. After a while Medo-Persia fell to Greece.

Greece was represented by a four-headed and four-winged leopard. (On the statue Greece was the bronze hips.) The four heads show the four rulers it had after its king, Alexander the Great, died. The four wings represent its swiftness in conquering. Then the four rulers started fighting among themselves, and that's when Rome came and conquered them.

Rome was represented by an unnamed beast. (It was the iron legs on the statue.) The beast had iron teeth and bronze claws. It also had ten horns. Rome was the most ruthless of all the kingdoms. Rome showed no compassion for anyone. During this time was when Jesus was born on earth. The horns represented the divided kingdom of Western Rome (the ten toes on the statue).

After Rome left the picture, modern times came along. We are living in the time of the iron and clay of the statue. This means that the next thing to happen will be that the stone (Christ) will come and destroy the statue. Then we will join Jesus in His kingdom forever.



THE PARENTING CORNER

TREE POEM

by Ariana Green, age 11



Trees, trees—they love the breeze.
Trees, trees—they have no needs.
Trees, trees—they love to grow.
Trees, trees—they're in the snow.
Trees, trees—they love the sun.
Trees, trees—they love to have fun.
Trees, trees—they never die.
Trees, trees—they touch the sky!

“Strength of character consists of two things—power of will and power of self-control. Many youth mistake strong, uncontrolled passion for strength of character; but the truth is that he who is mastered by his passions is a weak man. The real greatness and nobility of the man is measured by his powers to subdue his feelings, not by the power of his feelings to subdue him. The strongest man is he who, while sensitive to abuse, will yet restrain passion and forgive his enemies.

“The formation of character is the work of a lifetime, and it is for eternity. If all could realize this, if they would awake to the thought that we are individually deciding our own destiny for eternal life or eternal ruin, what a change would take place! How differently would this probationary time be occupied, and what different characters would fill our world!”
- *Child Guidance*, pp. 161-162 (by Ellen G. White, Review and Herald Publishing Association). ■



THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL

by Steph Knezovich, age 18

Alcohol is the most popular legal drug around the world today. All drugs, including alcohol, alter the function of the body in some way. We are charged with the responsibility of keeping our bodies pure. “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you.” 1 Corinthians 3:16.

Alcohol affects your body in a lot of ways. First it affects your liver. It starts to build up fatty deposits in the liver cells, and their function is impaired. As the alcohol abuse continues, liver cells begin to die, and the liver becomes inflamed.

The effects of alcohol on the brain are serious also. It slows down the function of the brain, producing a general loss of inhibitions and self-control. A person's behavior becomes unpredictable, causing a man or woman to do things they would normally not do. Many crimes and driving accidents occur under the influence of alcohol.

Alcohol is really addicting. A person can become very dependent on it. It is just horrible on the body. The Bible says, “Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.” Proverbs 20:1.

If you have (or someone you know has) a problem with alcohol, I'm going to give you some advice. First, get some help for yourself (or that person). There might be a group you can go and talk to. But first, you should go and pray to God for help.



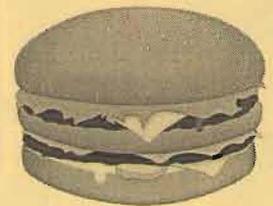
VEGETARIAN “HAMBURGERS”

... AN SCCS FAVORITE

- 1 medium onion (finely chopped)
- 1 medium potato (finely shredded)
- 1/2 cup walnuts (finely chopped)
- 1 cup bread crumbs
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. sage
- 2 Tbsp. Braggs Liquid Aminos

- 1 cup cooked oatmeal

- 2 Tbsp. ground flaxseed*
- 2 Tbsp. water



Combine the first seven ingredients. Add hot, cooked oatmeal and mix well. Then place the flaxseed into a small bowl, and add the water. Keep stirring until the mixture thickens. Add the flaxseed mixture to the other ingredients, and mix well.

Form into burger patties. (We use a burger press because it makes nice, symmetrical patties.) Place on a greased cookie sheet.

Bake 20-25 minutes at 375° (depending on your oven); then flip the burgers over, cover them with foil, and bake approximately 15 minutes longer or until brown. (Do not overbake, or burgers will be crispy.)

Makes approximately 10 burgers.

*We grind our flaxseed in a coffee grinder.

OPEN HOUSE



Singing at Open House
L to R: Sarah, Steph, Kellie, and Andie



Andie and Steph demonstrating
the Heimlich maneuver.



Ian giving a speech about
California missions at Open House



Mikey and Andy
as the Wright brothers

FIELD TRIP (NICHOLSON GLASSBLOWING)



Glassblowing artist, Mr. Nicholson,
beginning his project



The finished project being shown prior
to placing it in a kiln to cool down



Mike, Ian, and
another beautiful bowl

MISCELLANEOUS



Kellie and AJ
doing a lab experiment



Sarah showing off
her mosaic



Brittany feeding
one of her kittens



Andie will tell you all about this
in the next newsletter.

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.