



Spring 2008

News for NOMADS

NOMADS On a Mission Active in Divine Service

NOMADS Board 2007-2008

Chair Dorothy Bondurant
Vice Chair Arlin Kiel
Secretary Shirley Hope
Treasurer Cliff Johnson

Jurisdictional Reps

Terry Carlson Western
Rob Coe South Central
Jane Waddock North Central
Jim Traviss Southeastern
Duane Wakefield Northeastern
Agency Selection Committee Chair
Jeannie Coe
Member-At-Large George Russell
GBGM Rev. Clint Rabb
Ex-Officio Carla Kinsey
Recording Secretary Paul Hope

Committee Chairs

Agency: Jeannie Coe 210-601-6132(jbryancoe@mindspring.com)
Alumni Steering: Jack Travelstead 217-622-1484 (revjtravel@aol.com)
By-Laws: Jim Traviss 863-324-0237 (jjtrv@tampabay.rr.com)
Disaster Response: Arlin Kiel 816-261-9864 (askiels@gmail.com)
Finance: Cliff Johnson - Board members only
General Concerns: Duane Wakefield - Board members only
Newsletter: Carol Stoner 214-287-0140 (carol.stoner@juno.com)
Nominating: Rob Coe 210-601-6132(jbryancoe@mindspring.com)
Promotions: Jane Waddock 217-935-9865 (janenick99@verizon.net)
Reunion 2008: Dan and Joy Leithner 505-430-1261 (djleithner@hotmail.com)
Reunion 2009: John and Maetta Craig 317-332-6832 (jonlion@aol.com) and Jim and Ruth Davidson 765-589-3033 (rdavi8638@aol.com)
Sunshine: Rubye Russell 815-844-2210 (ggruss@mindspring.com)
Visioning: Duane Wakefield 207-799-1809 (duaneandlindawakefield@gmail.com)

Board Meeting Highlights

Your NOMADS Board met April 23-26th, 2008 in Lawson, Missouri, at Wilderness Retreat and Development Center, a United Methodist organization.

1. The first day was spent on Visioning. The Board members and invited guests considered Member Recruitment and Retention, a new Information Data Base, and Funds Development. Appropriate committees are in place to work in these areas.
2. The treasurer reported on current cash flow and budget comparison. Donations are down a little from last year at this time.
3. The treasurer completed all the Tax Exempt returns for years 2003-2007.
4. The Board voted to add \$5,000 to the Material Funds Budget for 2008 bringing the total available for this purpose to \$40,000 for the year.
5. The administrator, Carla, gave her report and the Board thanked her for the continued excellence she brings to her position.
6. Reports were heard from all of the Jurisdictional Representatives.
7. The Agency Committee reported they are receiving more evaluation forms, which has been very helpful to their committee. Agencies are very appreciative of the work of NOMADS and the grants they receive from material funds.
8. There will be leader training sessions at the September reunion.
9. It was decided there will be a \$10 annual alumni fee starting in 2009 and alumni will be encouraged to participate in member recruitment and fund raising activities.
10. Marley Walker was elected as the new chairman of the Disaster Response Committee, effective in September.
11. The Promotions Committee will focus its activities on developing and maintaining promotional resources that will be used by the whole organization.
12. It was decided there will no longer be any charges for brochures or DVDs. There will be a limit of 250 per request for brochures unless approved by Promotions.
13. Reports were received from the Reunion Committees: Sept. 22-26, 2008 - Shawnee, OK; Sept. 21-25, 2009 - Ceraland, IN; 2010 - Marion, NC.
14. NOMADS merchandise left over from SMA will be sold at the OK reunion. A licensing agreement was approved for persons wishing to create and sell merchandise with the NOMADS logo.

NOMADS is fortunate to have such a dedicated, talented and hard-working Board of Directors. As chairman of the Board, it is a privilege for me to work with them.

Dorothy Bondurant

Reunions, Rallies and More!!

Come Celebrate "20 Years of Making a Difference"

NOMADS Reunion and Annual Meeting

September 22 - 26th, 2008
Shawnee, OK

Seminars will include:

- Electricity - Basic to green
- Genealogy - power point presentation with DVDs available
- Arthritis & Diabetes information by OU Health Science Center
- Tile installation - by tile contractor
- New leader training
- Leader refresher
- NOMADS Promotions
- RV Maintenance by the training instructor at McClain RV
- Properties of Wood - working with treated lumber

Communications: "We are both using English but are we speaking the same language?"

- Crafts - show and share
- HDTV - what you need to know
- Fire safety - home, work, and RV by the Shawnee fire department

The Expo Center has a climate controlled building with excellent acoustics. We will also have full hookups (electricity, water & sewer).

Come visit with old friends and make new ones. See you in Shawnee!

50 PROJECTS RECOGNITION

Please send the names of persons who have worked 50 or more projects to Jane Waddock (janenick99@verizon.net or phone 217-454-0159), so that we can recognize these folks at Reunion.

As part of our 20th Anniversary celebration during reunion, we would like to have a slide show/history presentation. We have the technology/projector to put the show on, but need a volunteer(s) with creativity and picture/computer expertise to put the presentation together. There is significant history to share, moving from an all volunteer organization working

out of someone's basement to a national organization with a paid full time program administrator. We have photos/names of original NOMADS, various logos and brochures, project photos, NOMADS work clothes covered with paint and favorite NOMADS music as part of the show.

As for resources, we have official NOMADS history scrapbooks available, depicting our history that we could arrange to get to you for scanning. Additionally you could ask for specific pictures in the August newsletter before the reunion.

Please consider this request prayerfully and let us know if you can volunteer your time and talents to make it happen! Contact Jeannie Coe if interested or have questions. jbryancoe@mindspring.com or 210-601-6132

REUNION 2009

Columbus, IN

Sept. 22-25, 2009

Reunion Organizers:
John and Maetta Craig
Jim and Ruth Davidson

REUNION 2010

Marion, NC

CALLING ALL NOMADS!

RV owners rallies provide a great opportunity for spreading the word about NOMADS. Listed here are only a few of the rallies to be held this summer and fall:

Road Trek: June 3-5 Hagerman ID and Sept 15-18 Rapid City, SD

American Coaches: Nov 10-16 Arcadia, CA (So Cal Rally)

Bounders: June 19-21 Monticello, IN

Discovery: Aug 18-24 Richmond, IN

Teton Homes (TCI): Sept 21-27 Rapid City, SD

Holiday Rambler: Aug 3-7 Goshen, IN

Fleetwood: Oct 6-12 Elmendorf, TX

Winnebago: July 20-25 Forest City, IA

Alpine Coach: Nov 2008 Branson, MO

Allegro: June 16-18 Youngston, NY and

Sept 22-26 Branson, MO

Newmar: June 23-28 DuQuoin, IL

If you are a member of a RV owners club and would be interested in having a booth, setting up a display or handing out brochures at one of these or other rallies, contact Jane Waddock 217-454-0159 janenick99@verizon.net.

Information about Agencies requesting Drop-In NOMADS

Previously we have listed drop-in sites in the newsletter but as of this newsletter we are no longer doing that. This is a good news/bad news/good news situation! The Good News is that Agency requests for Drop-Ins continues to grow. The bad news is that we currently have 40 Agencies listed on our website, and there is not enough room to put them all in the newsletter. Then the Good News is that Joyce Martin is doing a great job of contacting the agencies as their listings are about to expire (listings are for 6 months at the most), finding out if they still want to be listed and helping them with the forms. She and Carla then work with Rudy Morris, our webmaster, who does an incredible job of keeping things up to date. So, if you are traveling or looking for someplace to work as drop-ins, the NOMADS website is a great tool!

Special thanks to Joyce and Rudy! (www.nomadsumc.org), click on Projects on the left side of the page, then click on Drop-In projects

Northeast Jurisdiction Campout 2008

September 2 - 5, 2008

Location: Ives Run Campground,
Corp of Engineers, Tioga, PA
Sites 01-44

Make your own reservations at
www.recreation.gov

Pot Luck Wednesday evening
Stone Soup Thursday evening
Bring a can or fresh vegetable to add to the soup

Contact: Duane and Linda Wakefield

Phone: 207-799-1809

duaneandlindawakefield@gmail.com

CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR BOARD

Four NOMADS members have met the April 30th deadline, applying as candidates for our Board of Directors. There will be two new directors elected from the field of four, each for a four-year term beginning in September. The new directors elected will fill the openings created by retiring directors, Rob Coe and Dorothy Bondurant.

Due to a change in the By-Laws approved last year, members will elect directors in two categories: Jurisdictional Representatives and At-Large Representatives. This year, we will be electing a new Jurisdictional Representative for the South Central Jurisdiction, and one At-Large Representative.

The candidate running for the South Central Jurisdictional Representative position is:

Carol Stoner, Livingston, Texas, is a retired medical technologist. She and Howard chaired the 2005 Reunion in Hope, AR. They have worked and led many NOMADS projects. Carol serves on the Newsletter and Promotions committees, and organized the Escapees BOF for NOMADS.

Candidates running for the At-Large Representative position on the Board are:

Bill Tarbell, Livingston, Texas, is a retired civilian industrial engineer with the Navy. Bill served on numerous UMC committees at both local and conference levels and is currently serving on the NOMADS Agency Selection committee for the Northeast Jurisdiction.

Marley Walker, Raco, Michigan, is retired from the Navy and a computer company in Washington, DC. Marley and Nancy have led and worked numerous NOMADS projects. They have also worked 9 mission trips overseas and the NOMADS project in Mexico.

Joan Wasserott, Palmyra, Virginia is a Registered Nurse and Lay Chaplain at the maximum security prison for women. Joan has served on numerous church committees and worked at a rural hospital in Africa. She has also led UVMIM teams.

Board Secretary Shirley Hope reports that all of these candidates have met the filing requirements and have been approved by the Nominations Committee. In early July, ballots and biographical sketches of each candidate will be mailed to all members.

The NOMADS Board consists of thirteen members: five At-Large, five Jurisdictional Reps (one for each of the five Jurisdictions), the Chair of the Agency Selection Committee, and one representative from the General Board of Global Ministries. In addition, Carla Kinsey (our program administrator) is a non-voting member of the board.

Recruiting Leaders

Have your team leaders talked with you about becoming a NOMADS team leader?? On the Leader Project Evaluation Form there is a question "Were there NOMADS on your team who are not leaders who you would recommend as leaders?" We collect that information and one way that we use it to send you an email to let you know you have been recommended and let you know how you can receive training.

What are we looking for in our NOMADS leaders? It may be better to start answering that question by saying what we do NOT expect of NOMADS leaders. There is NO expectation that the leader be skilled in all areas (electrical plumbing, carpentry, etc.) We know that God is really good about bringing a team together with the skills that will be needed. And we do NOT expect the leader to do the project "report". Those are often the two reasons that prospective leaders give me for why they don't want to become leaders. So now that we have dispelled those notions, let's look at what we really are looking for: Good communication skills (including listening) to serve as the liaison between the agency and the team, flexibility (things always change), good logistical skills to plan ahead for what will be needed, a sense of humor, the ability to work and play well with others, the ability to teach and learn, the ability to follow the Leader Handbook... that about covers it. Does that sound like you? Leading a NOMADS team does take time and planning, it can be challenging, and it is not always "fun." However, leaders report that leading a team is very rewarding.

The other comment I hear from prospective leaders is "I led people my whole career, and I'm retired and don't want to do that anymore." My response is two fold. (1) I think it is good to take a break and wait for maybe a year before leading a project. AND (2) if God has given you good leadership skills as one of your gifts, He may be calling you to use them for NOMADS. Our goal is to have enough leaders so that (1) no project gets canceled because there is no leader and (2) NOMADS leaders lead no more than 2 projects a year. We do not want to wear out our leaders! It is good for leaders to spend time as just team members.

We do Leader Training in several venues. There is a Leader Training class at every NOMADS Annual Reunion. We also have small group leader training at NOMADS mini-reunions (ex. AZ, FL or TX winter luncheons). And we have NOMADS across the country who can do one on one training. So, just because you can't attend a reunion doesn't mean you can't go through the training. There is no obligation to lead a certain number of projects per year if you take the training. And, if after completing the training, you decide that you don't want to lead, that is okay as well. Typically we require that you complete the training before you could volunteer to lead a certain project. So even if you say, I want to do a couple of more projects before I lead one, it is not too early to take the training.

So if you have positive leadership experience and feel called (even if you are reluctant to follow) to lead, we do hope that you will consider becoming a NOMADS leader and completing the training.

All the Best, Jeannie Coe
NOMADS Leader Training Coordinator
210-601-6132

Do You Remember When? Caring for New NOMADS

Do you remember the first time you worked on a NOMADS Project? Do you remember the excitement, energy, and enthusiasm you felt as you received letters from the leaders? But did you also feel a bit apprehensive and anxious as you traveled to the project? The NOMADS Board has made a goal of doubling the membership of NOMADS. That is a great goal, but it brings with it some responsibility to us “experienced” NOMADS. When we have “new” members on our teams, the rest of the team needs to make a point to be *more* accepting, *more* outgoing and *more* friendly than normal. If we are on a team with friends we have worked with on other projects, we often talk about our past experiences with each other. There is a great deal of conversation such as “Do you remember when we....when we were working in...”. New NOMADS do not have that history and may feel a bit out of place and not part of the group if this type of conversation is continuous. Instead of sitting with your previous acquaintances at breaks, lunch, or worship, please make a point to include the new members. We really need to be very aware of including everyone in the group, so the team grows together and the new NOMADS quickly become part of the team. That way, they too develop a history to share on future projects! “New” does not mean incapable or unable. It only means they have more recently chosen to work in ministry with the NOMADS and are eager and willing to participate in a wonderful part of the United Methodist Church.

Just for Leaders

Have you stepped up in faith and decided to be a leader of a project? Do you remember the first time you led a NOMADS project? Remember the excitement, energy and enthusiasm you had as you wrote letters to the team members and worked with the agency in preparation for the team’s work at the project? NOMADS projects cannot function without leaders and even though it is more responsibility and more work, it is also another opportunity to serve. But when we are not leading and are regular team members, we also need to step back and think of the preparation the leaders have done. We need to appreciate, express support, and remember that there is not one ‘correct’ way to lead. NOMADS leaders follow the Leader Handbook but they have many different leadership approaches and ways to do things. These differences in leadership make the projects more interesting. And certainly one of the goals in addition to the success of the project is to share Christian love with each other.

We shared with some NOMADS board members and were asked to write an article about our ideas. We hope it reminds us to appreciate and support all members of our teams whether experienced or new, as well as our leaders. We all can use a hug and a word of appreciation each day.

David and Pat Bennett, NOMADS from Idaho

20 YEARS OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE

2008 NOMADS REUNION and ANNUAL MEETING September 22-26th, 2008 in Shawnee, OK

REGISTRATION FORM

RETURN BY AUGUST 15, 2008

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ City/State _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ Cell Phone _____

EMAIL _____

Name(s) you would like on name tag if different from above _____

REGISTRATION FEE

Reunion registration fee - # of persons _____ @ \$30.00 each = \$ _____

(Fee includes catered dinner, building rentals, insurance, etc.)

CAMPING FEE

Arrival date _____ (No earlier than Friday, September 19th)

Departure date _____ (No later than Saturday, September 27th)

These are full hookup sites. If you are ARRIVING BEFORE FRIDAY, Sept. 19th, or LEAVING LATER THAN SATURDAY, Sept. 27th, please pay for your extra nights at the Expo Center office.

Camping fees - # of nights _____ @ \$15.00 per night = \$ _____

T-SHIRT FEE

Reunion t-shirts are available for \$10 each, only as part of pre-registration. Please indicate quantity next to each size you are ordering (these are MEN's sized shirts). The shirts are **royal blue** and will have "20 Years of Making a Difference" on the back and our logo on the front. These will not be sold at Reunion.

S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ 2X _____ = Total # shirts _____ @ \$10 each = \$ _____

TOTAL Registration + camping + t-shirt fees enclosed \$ _____

Send registration form and check payable to Dorothy A. Hester to:

Dottie Hester
3230 Esplanade Circle
Rio Rancho, NM 87124

Registration Form Page 2

HOTEL

We have reserved a block of rooms at the America's Best Value Inn, 4900 N. Harrison, Shawnee, OK, 405-275-4404. Please mention NOMADS when making your reservations.

SILENT AUCTION

Silent auction and Live auction Tuesday afternoon (proceeds going to the NOMADS general fund).

Do you have items to donate to the silent auction? Yes _____ No _____

Please bring items Monday afternoon.

THURSDAY POTLUCK SUPPER - PICNIC STYLE IN THE PARK

I would like to be a table host Yes _____ No _____

Name _____ To be provided by host: Meat dish to feed eight and small table for entrees. Bring your own table service and drinks.

SEMINARS SCHEDULED - Wednesday and Thursday

Crafts demonstration participation? Yes _____ No _____ Will you have a make it-take it project" Yes _____ No _____ Will you need table and chairs? Yes _____ No _____

PLACES TO VISIT

Nearby Oklahoma City - Oklahoma Memorial, Cowboy Hall of Fame, Bricktown

Monday -Round House Overall Factory, Shawnee, OK. Tours available (no entry fee) please indicate your planned attendance - Yes _____ No _____

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT EACH EVENING

Tuesday - Ambassadors Choir from Tulsa Asbury UMC.
(Love offering to help defray transportation costs).

Wednesday - Native American dancer & singer from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation will entertain.

Thursday - Jon & Sylvia Flint will entertain with their music.

REFUNDS ONLY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY!!!



P.O. Box 3508
Shawnee, KS 66203
Toll free: 1-866-466-6237
Email: director@nomadsumc.org

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT
WWW.NOMADSUMC.ORG



Devotional Thought

by Carolyn Morris

This season seems to be creating more work for NOMADS unfortunately! The tornadoes that are ravaging the countryside are bent on uprooting many people's lives. The flooding that comes with the same storms that create the tornadoes does even more devastation.

Do we have NOMADS living in these areas? Perhaps we do, so if you know of NOMADS directly affected by these disasters, please let us know. Our prayers go out to all those affected until we

know more specifically what we can do to assist.

Psalm 70:4-5 exhorts us, "But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation always say, 'Let God be exalted!' Yet I am poor and needy; come quickly to me, O God. You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay."

This prayer applies to many situations of need. Those of us not experiencing the same needs listed above have other needs: poor health, loss or los-

ing of a loved one, depression, and you name the rest!

Let us pray for one another, offer support physically or financially, and watch for those projects down the road that will enable us to offer additional support. May this season of storms come to an early end!

Carolyn writes a weekly Thought for the Week and emails to those who want to receive them. If interested contact her at motoringmorris@att.net.

