

With Sword & Trowel

Office : 360-423-5022
Project Response: 888-423-5022
E-mail: information@hh4c.org
Snail Mail: P.O. Box 636, Kelso, WA 98626

www.hardhatsforchrist.org



Look Whose Turning 40

Dave and Ann Williamson Longview, WA

Upon turning 80 (or was it 90?) in the film "On Golden Pond", Henry Fonda quips, "I always hoped to make it this far, I just didn't expect to make it here this soon!" Well, Hard Hats for Christ is only half-way to 80, but a lot of us can sure relate to Fonda's statement, can't we?

Believe it or not, I became aware of *Construction Workers Christian Fellowship* when it was still in its infancy, about 37 years ago. Well, I suppose at 2 or 3 years of age, the ministry by then was in its "toddlersy"!

Birne Wiley, founder of Missionary Tech Team (a similar ministry in Longview, Texas) suggested to Jim Hodges that he do some recruiting amongst the Construction Management students at John Brown University, in Arkansas. So *Mr. Hard Hats* spoke to the Engineer's Club there in the fall of 1972.

One of Jim's "spiritual gifts" may be his ability to keep track of

Contact Information! He collected mine, and over the 30 years that followed our brief meeting we had occasional contact. I drew a couple of floor plans for a project or two, and from time to time I received the "With Sword and Trowel" newsletters. What I most remember about those was it seemed that either the office location or the office secretary was constantly changing—a trend that continued until at least 2008!

In the Spring of 2002, while serving with TEAM in Asia, we were praying for God to open a door for us in the Pacific Northwest, where our daughter wanted to attend college. Somehow, Jim found my e-mail address and invited us to come meet the HH4C Board, with a view to my eventually taking the helm of the mission. We found cheap tickets to the West Coast, met the Board, and the rest, as they say, is history.

But it's just a *tiny fraction* of Hard Hats for Christ history. We'll be reminiscing and celebrating *much*

more than just the past 8 years at two banquets next year (see the invitation below).

We sincerely hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend one of these events. **Don't wait** until we turn 80 to get together with volunteers, missionaries, and friends from Hard Hats' past and present!

We'll only be reminding you of these opportunities once or twice more before they happen, so please take a moment to mark your calendar and RSVP the office. We hope to see you in Colorado (May 1st) or Longview (October 2nd)!

Dave and Ann



Can we send you the *With Sword & Trowel* by e-mail?

Just drop us a note at information@hh4c.org

You are Cordially Invited

To

The 40th Anniversary Celebration
Of
Hard Hats For Christ



Fairmount Bible Church
Golden, Colorado

May First Two Thousand Ten
4:00 p.m. Fellowship 5:00 p.m.
Dinner

Please R. S. V. P.

To the office by April 12th, 2010

OR

Northlake Baptist Church
Longview, Washington

October Second Two Thousand
Ten
3:00 p.m. Fellowship 4:00 p.m.
Dinner

Please R. S. V. P

To the Ends of the Earth with Folks from Down Under



We are very excited about two networking opportunities with a like-minded ministry based in Australia. Originally known as Mobile Maintenance Ministries – MMM was formed as an RV'ers group to assist churches and ministries in the Australian *out-back*. Since 1975 they have expanded to centers in every Australian territory plus independent offices in Fiji, Hong Kong, New Zealand, South Africa, Thailand, and Zambia (www.mmm.org.au).

In 2010, Hard Hats for Christ hopes to partner with MMM to complete work on a missionary home/youth outreach center in Mexico City, and to finish work on the newly rebuilt Africa Bible College campus in Liberia.

Teams will be forming for Mexico in the first two or three months of 2010, so get your name on the list ASAP!

The work there will involve installing/re-installing doors, windows, and frames, building closets, repairing plaster and stucco, painting, cement topping, setting tile, and building a wall in the kitchen.

After many years of terror and destruction, peace has returned to war-torn Liberia, West Africa. The Samaritan's Purse funded repairs to most of the original buildings, some of which were built by Hard Hats for Christ volunteers in the 1970's.

We've been invited to return to the

campus next year to finish a television and radio training center and broadcasting studio which will not only train and equip African broadcasters, but will also beam Christian programming across the continent.

We're praying that some of our veterans, maybe even some who built the original buildings, will be able to return along with newer volunteers, to complete the good work began early in our Hard Hats history. Won't you join them?

Contact the Hard Hats office for more information, and to get your name in the pot, "Mate"!

AFTER 40 YEARS NOW WHAT?

The vision God gave Jim Hodges was to sow the Gospel message in the traditionally hard soil of the construction and industrial maintenance workplace, to disciple Christian men and women in those fields, and then to lend skilled hands to the construction and maintenance needs of Christian ministries in the U.S. and around the world.

In the early days, a number of men came to Christ or had their faith strengthened through the fellowship of Hard Hats for Christ. And many missions around the world benefitted from the volunteer efforts of groups of craftsmen from the industry.

Over time, project assistance became a bigger and bigger part of the ministry, more and more of our projects were in the U.S., and many were being serviced by RV'ers for Christ. Jobsite evangelism and discipleship began to "take a backseat" as Hard Hats members retired from the trades, until finally, that portion of the ministry became nearly extinct. And now we're starting to see our RV'ers hanging up their tool belts and keys to their RV's, as age and declining health take their toll.

We are encouraged by finding new recruits through agencies such as the Finishers Project (www.finishers.org), but our ranks are not being filled as fast as needed, especially in these difficult economic times. For understandable reasons, a number of potential missionaries and volunteers have

decided that it might be prudent to "keep their day jobs" just a couple of years longer.

Yet, we still have opportunities to involve many more people in the Hard Hats ministry. We are developing strategies to attract the "Baby Boomers" with time on their hands and a desire to do something that will count for eternity, as well as members of the Gen X, Gen Y, NextGen, or whatever our kids, grandkids, and great-grandkids may be called!

Of preeminent importance, though, is reaching the 10 million construction workers in North America with the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, and equipping them to bear fruit in the workplace and around the world. I believe we will never lack volunteers for the projects if we have a vibrant ministry on the jobsites. Accomplishing that is a challenging task, requiring creativity and tenacity. How will we reach these men (and now, women too)? Tim Cupp is doing this in Kansas City (see page 4), but his ministry is threatened by lack of financial resources.

Hard Hat Scrap Book

Hard Hats has been doing projects for almost 40 years and we need your help putting together a book of stories and pictures. The page size will be 8 1/2" by 11" front and back. We slip the pages into protective covers and put them in a 3 ring binder. You can either mail or e-mail your page or pages (one page per project) already put together or send your pictures and information and we will put it together. Please have the following info:

Who it is from

What Project

At least the Year of the Project

Pictures and/or story

A sample of a page will be on our web site at www.hardhatsforchrist.org and you can contact me at SherryN@hh4c.org or call 360-423-5022

Perhaps you are one of those who can no longer go and do the work yourself, or perhaps you are one who is planning to go, eventually. Through prayer and financial participation, you can be a part of the team dedicated to revitalizing the first two points of our purpose statement: 1) to evangelize the lost and 2) to disciple men and women in the construction industry. Perhaps you know of another individual, or a church, or foundation that would be interested in underwriting part of this work. Please contact us for more information about the development of these parts of our ministry. And please, prayerfully consider a special gift toward the evangelism that is already going on in Kansas City.

Dave



Where in the world are ...?



Jim and Jean Hodges
“Longview, WA”

Jim and Jean have been doing some traveling to their 50th High School Reunions, Jean's in Washington DC and Jim's in Kansas. Also this year was the 104th birthday for Jean's dad, Grandpa Sheppa. Jim continues to work on the archives for the mission and visits associates, churches and work sites when possible. He also takes part in the weekly prayer time at the office in Longview, and communicates with Hard Hats friends and supporters through birthday and anniversary cards. Jim and Jean have both had some health challenges this year, and appreciate your prayers.



Dennis & Darlene Korneychuk
“Chandler, AZ”

After leading the group of RV'ers for Christ who helped to complete the new sanctuary for Sonoita Hills Community Church in Arizona last winter, Dennis & Darlene spent the summer at home in Wyoming and took time to work on their home. This winter they've joining the Avis's and Nelson's at Faith Community Church in Chandler, Arizona. They are looking forward to being at home in Pine Bluffs next year, leading the work of building a new sanctuary for their home church.



Brenda Jeffries “Longview, WA”

Brenda continues to handle the receipts and make bank deposits and pick up the mail from the Post Office—all vitally important functions and, as always, a real blessing to the home office! Thank you for your prayers for her daughter who continues to recover well from cancer surgery. Brenda has been able to take some time off to help Tracy, who lives a few hours away in Oregon. We are so grateful to Brenda's faithful supporters, who make it possible for her to keep up the good work.



Cody & Crystal Swanson
“Elk Mt, WY”

Cody, Crystal, Jeremiah, and Andrew made a move to the thriving metropolis of Elk Mountain, WY, earlier this year, where Cody continues to work for the Wyoming Department of Transportation. Working on-line at home, Cody earned an Associates Degree in Information Technology. Our hope is that Cody will be able to put that knowledge to use for Hard Hats in the near future. Pray with us for the right timing for the Swansons to take the next steps toward full time missionary service.



Joe & Sherry Newton “Dalkena, WA”

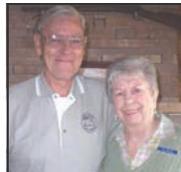
Joe and Sherry are staying busy working on projects in the field and at the home office. Joe finished up two small projects in Winlock and in Centralia, WA. At the end of July they moved to a project in Dalkena, WA (north of Spokane) helping the church do the first phase of a new sanctuary. Sherry commuted by “puddle jumper” to the home office and would be there for a week and then at “home” with Joe for two weeks. At Dalkena they had help from Dan and Dawn Humphries who have been associated with Hard Hats for years, and a brand new couple Jacob and Shannan Thiel who are looking at becoming Hard Hats Missionaries. Right after Thanksgiving the Newton's will return to Longview for some small projects and to await their next assignment. They are also looking forward to spending Christmas with their children in Colorado.



Duane Atkinson “Rainer, OR”

Duane and Kenny have been busy preparing for their daughter Sarah's wedding. It will take place November 28th in Rainer, Oregon, and the couple will reside at Camp Pendleton, California until re-assignment or deployment with the US Marine Corps.

Duane continued to refine his sheetrock skills this past year, helping to restore a church and parsonage that were damaged by floods last winter. He also led an exploratory trip to the Dominican Republic, and hopes to return there for a project in 2010, as well as a possible project in Mexico City. Duane continues to be a blessing to other Hard Hats missionaries, as he comes alongside with his special set of skills to speed certain phases of the projects.



Dick & Vi Avis “Chandler, AZ”

Dick and Vi took some time off this summer and went home to North Carolina. All Dick had to do during the “down time” was to maintain their house, help various relatives nearby with the odds and ends and chores that needed doing, have a knee replaced and learn how to walk again! All went well, but they had to go back to work to rest up from “vacation”! They are now back in Chandler, AZ helping to finish out at least half of the Christian Education building at Faith Community Church, where they've been the last couple of winters.



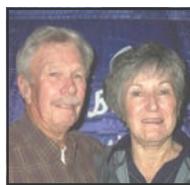
Lou & Kathy Aschenbrenner
“Potter Valley, CA”

Lou and Kathy have been volunteering as camp ground hosts with USFS and BLM from May to October. While they were there they continued to represent Hard Hats for Christ to people who stayed at the camps. Now that summer is over Lou and Kathy are doing maintenance and remodeling a lodge at Hartstone Bible Camp in northern California, and are available to help out at nearby Potter Valley Community Church.



Bob & Patti Virts “On the Road”

Bob and Patti enjoyed being camp hosts this past summer at Peterson Prairie Campground, near Trout Lake, WA. Unfortunately, Bob cracked a couple of ribs and hurt his back toting trash cans, but is hoping to be mended in time to head south again for the winter. We may “loan” them to Sowers again this winter for projects in and around Tucson, Arizona. They are looking forward to serving Hard Hats again when we have a project needing Bob's supervisory skills. Pray for Bob's complete healing!



Rolan and Lee McKay
“Potter Valley, CA”

Rolan and Lee continue to lead the work at Potter Valley Community Church doing everything from framing, exterior siding and trim, painting, and electrical rough-in to installing the vacuum system. Earlier in the fall they took some time off for Rolan to recuperate from a small surgical procedure. He is doing great and feeling much better. Lou and Kathy Aschenbrenner assisted them over the winter before leaving for campground duty. Dave and Tim Johansen, Hard Hats volunteers, also made a couple of trips to the site to lend a hand for a week or two or three.

“Television is a medium because anything well done is rare.” Fred Allen

Watch for the continuing adventures of our wandering crew in our June issue!
If you would like to become a part of this courageous band contact us at www.information@hh4c.org

Kansas City Hard Hats for Christ / Construction Life Ministries

By Tim Cupp



Lindsey, Kevin, Jim & Tim

Friday, October 30th

It was a cold/windy/miserable day to be outside. I was feeling down and wondering why I was out there freezing in the open wind. A young man about 25 that I had never met before came to the truck. He asked "Is your name Tim?" He went on to explain how he had heard about my powerful testimony of deliverance and all God did for me and how it had moved him. He heard this through one of his fellow project workers, my HH4C prayer partner Will. He shared with me how he had strayed from God over the past couple of years and mistakenly got involved in heavy drugs. He was now going back to church regularly and getting closer to the Lord. He felt that my testimony gave him hope and the strength to trust in God for his own walk and recovery..... WOW what an AWESOME God we serve!!!!!! We talked for as long as we could in the raw elements that day. I hope to get to know him better and maybe get him involved with our HH4C ministry on that project. As I was pulling away God reminded me why I was out there: because of men like this young man and many more! I am out there because that's where God plans use me.

God is opening doors for us here at KC Hard Hats for Christ. My daughter Lindsey and I operate an evangelistic ministry called Construction Catering. This year we've handed out over a hundred bibles and an additional two hundred HH4C evangelism tracts on various construction projects. Every day brings another exciting opportunity to develop relationships and share Christ and his word with men and women. Our ministry vehicles currently have access to about 2000 construction workers a week. We are learning what the Apostle Paul meant when he said, "I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some." And again in Rom. 15:19-20 he says, "I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ. It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known..." That's what we are about in the Kingdom of God here in Kansas City.



If you would like to see all God is doing from the trucks please email and I will gladly pass my logs on to you.

Prayer Needs

- Pray for transformed lives in the construction marketplace.
 - Weekly discipleship meetings and for more speaking engagements.
 - Sponsors and more evangelistic opportunities.
- Our personal monthly financial needs.



Financial Update

All ministries are feeling the financial strain. We are no different. Our goal is to reach out to the over 10 million construction workers on jobsites across this nation, starting in Kansas City. Please continue with us in prayer for transformed lives in the marketplace through the ministries of HH4C/CLM. Our ministry only continues because of friends like you, who have a burden to support us through prayer and financial giving.



CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

Our top needs are always for more missionaries and volunteers (see "Now What" on page 2). We praise the Lord for some who have expressed interest recently. The harvest is still plentiful, the workers are still few. Pray the Lord of the harvest to send out workers!



We generally shy away from "in kind" donations. But if you, or someone you know, has a 24' to 36' travel trailer or 5th wheel *in reasonable condition* they would like to donate to the ministry, we can put it to good use. We won't mind doing a little sprucing up on it, but we're not interested in hauling it to the salvage yard for you!



I AM INTERESTED

Name _____ Address _____

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE *Sword and Trowel* BY E-MAIL _____

PLEASE SEND MORE INFO ON _____ PROJECT OR MISSIONARY.

I WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE _____ CELEBRATION.



Return in the envelope provided or e-mail to Information@hh4c.org OR call 360-423-5022