

Brian Sakultarawattn to Speak at 40th Anniversary Banquet

Tuesday, December 26, 1995, just a few days after becoming engaged to Haley Havlik, Brian Sakultarawattn (pronounced skoon-tra-WATT) was severely burned in an accident while working at Teen Trees International (where, coincidentally, Jim Hodges had recruited Duane Atkinson for Hard Hats a number of years before).

The surgeon told his family that, with 94 percent of his body grotesquely burned, Brian had a 2% chance of living. But somehow, he clung to life and never gave up hope. And Haley had a big decision to make. When she promised to spend the rest of her life with Brian, he was everything she'd ever dreamed of - physically, emotionally, and spiritually. But now the handsome, athletic young man was no longer even recognizable.

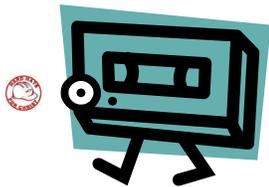
Over the weeks and months of painful recovery Brian lost limbs, facial features, and eventually his sight. But he learned that true identity is only established on a close relationship with Jesus Christ. And Haley's response? "It just doesn't matter to me how Brian looks on the outside," she said. "He's still the same on the inside."

Brian and Haley now have three wonderful children, and make their home in St. Helens, Oregon. They will share their testimony of God's love and faithfulness at our 40th Anniversary Banquet in Longview, October 2nd.

We will also be recalling God's faithfulness to and through the ministry of Hard Hats for Christ since its inception 40 years ago, and looking forward to the Lord's blessing on this ministry until Christ returns. Before Brian speaks, a sumptuous buffet will be served in the Fireside Room of Northlake Baptist Church, 2614 Ocean Beach Highway, Longview, WA. Love offerings will be taken to cover the expenses of the evening. See the coupon in this issue of "With Sword and Trowel" to RSVP by September 13th!

Hard Hats Video to outlast Oprah's show?

Do you remember the very first episode of the Oprah Winfrey Show? Well, neither do we, but it aired September 8, 1986, and is scheduled to end September 11, 2011. We have a video (VHS) about Hard Hats for Christ that was probably made a little *before* Oprah debuted, and we'd sure like to "retire" it by the time she goes off the air next year!



Bye-Bye Hard Hats

We've started "shooting" new footage, and hope to turn it into several unique video products targeting specific audiences. For example, a new, general information DVD to show in churches, or to men's Bible study groups, and so on. We also want something suitable for posting on our website. For recruiting, we need a tool that will get the attention of retiring Baby-Boomers who may be interested in joining RV'ers for Christ. And we need a separate film that focuses on home schoolers and other young people who might want to pursue a career in construction. We believe God may be calling us to a mentoring, apprenticeship ministry to recruit godly young people to infiltrate the trades for Christ.

Several home-school families with aspirations and talent for Christian film-making are stepping up to help us produce these new videos. In fact, we just had a very successful and encouraging "shoot" in Northern California. These volunteers are keeping our costs very low, but professional quality film production is still not cheap! Can you prayerfully help underwrite our new video project? Mark your gift for "302 - Video", so that more people can learn about the ministry of Hard Hats for Christ!

