

Mission team from Iowa works at Christ's Outreach for the Blind

Christ's Outreach for the Blind, a Christian based camp located in Mt. Vernon, hosted its first mission team this past week, a church group from Sioux Center, Iowa. The twenty member team, ranging in age from 8-82, received their assignment from Coalition Appalachian Ministries. Each team member paid a fee to participate in the project and furnished their own building materials which they purchased from local businesses in Mt. Vernon.

The Iowa mission team's labor included sanding and sealing 400 feet of wood railing of the Outreach Center, dry walling the walls and sanding, painting and upholstering metal chairs that will be used in the camp's dining room. One team member cooked from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. A portion of the mission group also assisted a certified electrician in wiring the Outreach Center, saving Christ's Outreach for the Blind an estimated expense of \$18,000.

Another important project was completed by the Iowa mission team, an outdoor classroom made possible by a grant awarded by PRIDE. PRIDE seeks to teach the importance of maintaining our waterways, the

necessity of recycling our trash and the consequences of pollution. Eventually, there will be a dock leading from the outdoor classroom to a pond where campers can learn how weather and varying temperatures

affect the water. They will be given nets and asked to identify three layers of pond life which include bugs, fish and frogs. They will also study animal life cycles and water current cycles. In addition, they will test alkaline content of the water and study pond plant life such as cattails and various grasses.

In response to an inquiry of why members of the Mission Team left their homes and occupations in Iowa to come to Kentucky to do mission work, Dan, their 23-year-old leader replied, "to further the Kingdom of God." Then he said, "Selfish reason, the one who walks away with a lot."

When asked how the trip had changed them, one man responded, "We read in the newspaper and watch on television about bad things hap-

pening and we say, 'God where are you?' I see God's grace through these people, Mike's vision and Lon's support."

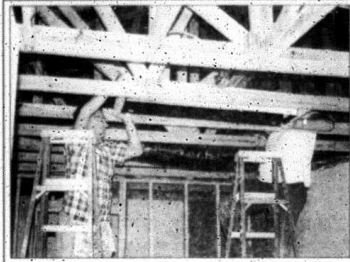
When the camp officially opens, Christ Outreach for the Blind will teach hunting, hiking, rappelling, gardening and Independent Living

Skills to blind and disabled campers. Mike Gates, blinded in a hunting accident in 1989 says, "Our activities are based on everything that everybody tells the blind or disabled they can't do. 'The camp will accommodate 600 participants each year and will run April-December."

If you have any questions about this camp for the blind and disabled, please call Mike Gates at 1-938-254-6319.



Mission team member upholstering chairs for camp dining room



Iowa mission team helped do electrical wiring of Outreach Center



Mission team sanded 400 feet of hand railing of Outreach Center



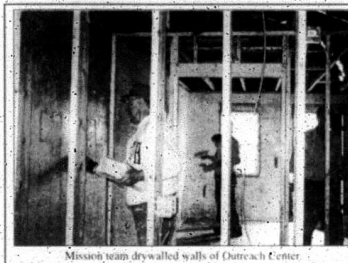
John McFerron hands up metal roofing for outdoor classroom made possible by a grant from PRIDE.



Christ's Outreach for the Blind's Outreach Center is nearly completed.



Iowa mission team painted chairs for Christ's Outreach Center for the Blind & Disabled.



Mission team drywalled walls of Outreach Center



82-year-old mission team member from Iowa sanded chairs



Mike Gates, Director of Christ's Outreach and his dad, Hank.



Iowa mission team's cook worked each day from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Outdoor classroom made possible by a grant awarded by PRIDE



Sanding chairs for camp dining room

Old Fashioned Chili Supper & Pie Auction

Saturday, April 27th
6:00 p.m.

Mt. Vernon Volunteer Fire Department

\$5.00 ALL-U-CAN EAT

All Candidates and anyone else can bring a cake or pie for the auction!!!

Raffles!!!

Remington 870 Shotgun
And a
Homemade Quilt

Chili
Pimiento Cheese
Peanut Butter &
Jelly
Desserts
Drinks

All proceeds from the raffles, supper, and auction in for the Mt. Vernon Volunteer Fire Department.