



Young Men's News

Simi Valley Stake

Volume 1, Issue 2 July, 1997

Let us Fly Together!

Being a convert to the church I am continually amazed by the strength of the youth. Recalling my own youthful days without the Gospel I can see what great blessings come into your lives through the loving guidance of your leaders and the powerful saving principles that they teach.

The great power of the youth of this church lies in their obedience to the principles that they are taught: *"There is a law, irrevocably decreed in heaven before the foundations of this world, upon which all blessings are predicated. And when we obtain any blessing from God, it is by obedience to that law upon which it is predicated."* (D&C 130:20-21) *"Therefore, prepare thy heart to receive and obey the instructions which I am about to give unto you; for all those who have this law revealed unto them must obey the same."* (D&C 132:3)

Here is a story about a young boy that I hope will illustrate what I mean. One day while flying a kite, the boy asked his father,

"Dad, what holds the kite up?"

"The string," he replied.

Questioning the response, the boy said "No Dad, the string holds it down, not up."

With patience the father taught him a lesson, "If you think so, let go of the string and see what happens."

Of course as the string was released the kite began to fall. It seems odd that the very thing which appears to keep the kite down is actually what allows the kite to soar higher and higher.

We also have many wonderful, caring people in our lives, our Parents, Bishop, Quorum Advisors and others that want us to soar to greater heights. The principles that they are taught are the strings that allow our spirits to do just that!

The Latin root of the word "religion" means "to tie back". The Gospel provides the string to the soaring kite of our spirits. It is obedience to Gospel principles and the values that provides the driving force and allows our spirits to climb. As long as we are obedient we cannot fall!

We know that there are members of our families, wards and quorums that are willing to help us. They can run a short distance, pulling our strings with them so we won't crash, we may share their testimonies for a time, but we have the power within us to understand and live God's commandments. When we do, we rise to be what we were pre-ordained to become, Son's of our Heavenly Father, living in his presence.

President Brigham Young put it this way, *"It should be in the hearts of all to seek unto the Lord with all their might and affections, and so live as to have him guide them, that they may never fall--that they may attain the goal they are anticipating."*

May you all magnify the power within you to be obedient and learn to soar as your Heavenly Father would have you do. It is my prayer that you too will attain the goal that you are anticipating!

With love,

Pres. Kent Hambly,

Stake Young Men's President

LET US FLY TOGETHER!

Congratulations!!!
 New Eagle Scouts
 Joseph Merrell Dougherty
 Sean Cottam McIntire
 Dathan Kimball Salgado
 Court of Honor Aug 16, 1997

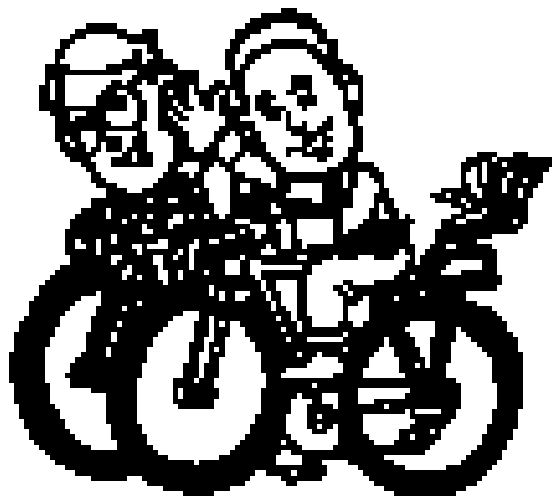
Youth Activity Calendar

<u>August</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activities</u>
9		Varsity Deep Sea Fishing Tournament
13	7:30pm	Round Table-SC
16	7:00pm	Eagle Court of Honor-TB
19-22	4:00pm	BYU Education Week Broadcast-CB
20		Eagle Board of Review
23	8:00pm	Stake Youth Dance-CB
25-9/1		Wood Badge Ldr.. Training
29		Welfare Farm Assignment

<u>September</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activities</u>
2		School Starts
6		Volleyball-SC
10	7:30pm	Round Table
13	9:00am	Young Men Handcart Trek "Living the Legacy"-SC



14	6:00pm	Stake Youth Council-SC
17		Eagle Board of Review
20		Volleyball-SC
20		Varsity Ironman at Ventura Harbor
20		Simi Valley Days Parade
21	7:00pm	Stake General Priesthood Meeting
23	7:00pm	Stake Court of Honor
27		Volleyball-SC
27		Stake Youth Dance-CB



Missionary Happenings

Returning Missionaries

Ryan Southworth	S5	Texas	June,4
Shawn Williams	SS5	Florida	June,12
Michael Brock	S1	Mass/Spanish	June,20
Jared Powell	SS2	Connecticut	July

New Missionaries

Jimmy Jukes	S4	New Mexico	May,28
Peter Bystrom	SS3	Brazil	June,11
Doug Cheney	S4	England	July,30
Ben Neilson	SS2	Portugal	Sept,17

Stake Volleyball to Start in September

Start practicing! Wards should have their Coaches called and their rosters turned in to Brother Robert Kovach. With as popular as volleyball has become we know that the boys are looking forward to it.

NEW YOUNG MEN DANCE DRESS STANDARDS

Acceptable:

Collared Shirts
Slacks
Colored Jeans
Shoes & Socks
Shirts & Sweaters

Not Acceptable:

T-Shirts
Earrings
Blue Denim Jeans
Shorts (any length)
Hats, bandanas
Baggy Clothing, excessive length
Rips, tears or holes in clothing
Suggestive or inappropriate words on clothing

Ward Activities and Great Ideas

SS1

We had 8 young men participate in baptisms/confirmations for the dead at The Los Angelus Temple.

We plan on taking a bike ride from Newbury Park down the Canyon to Sycamore Cove Beach and then spend the day at the beach. We are also working on our handcart and to date have all the wheels finished. A paintball wargame activity is coming in July and in August the Scouts are going on a 50 miler at Kings Canyon. Our Youth Conference will be in September this year.

Our best activity lately was a version of capture the flag; Instead of tagging people out, water balloons were used. After about 10 rounds and 500 water balloons, we called it a day. The young Women participated with us and adults acted as judges.

Simi High Grads

Paul Jensen
Nick Piscitello
Mike Latham

Personal Notes

Jonathan Mortensen took second place in his bowling tournament recently and Ryan Moberly (sophomore) was moved up to Varsity on the Royal High School Volleyball team and participated in the CIF finals at Cypress College. Eric Williams is advancing to the office of a Priest June 29. With the additions of Steven Phan, Chris Edwards, Evan Woodhead, Matthew Player, and Walter Gale, our Deacons Quorum is up to 10 now.

SS2

SS2 Youth went to Lake Isabella for Youth Conference June 19 through 22. We did a service project, clearing and stacking dead ground wood. water skied and jet skied, had a dance with the youth of the Kern Valley Ward, held seminars on being worthy amid pressures and held a testimony meeting and a sacrament meeting. Approximately 30 youth and 10 leaders attended. It was a great success and a great deal of spiritual bonding and friendship occurred.

Our Boy Scouts are going to camp at Lost Valley Camp in San Diego County starting July 19.

Recent Eagles include Joseph Dougherty, Brandon Mattson, and Dallas Moran.

Life; Noah Barlow, Joseph Brown, and Jimmy Cuillard.

Star; John Jaggard and Bobby Pollard.

SS3

Our Youth Conference will be in November. Our most recent combined activity was a beach party. The Scouts recently returned from an overniter at Blue Point in Lake Piru. The boys had a blast jumping off large boulders into river pools.

SS3cont.

High School Grads

Jerry Hughes
Jeff Greenwell
Wildon Wu

Plans

Pierce/Volleyball

BYU

Recent Eagles: Nick Hensey & Eric Cheng

SS5

SS5 held Youth Conference June 20 and 21. The kids hiked to Tapo Park and camped overnite, all participated in Pioneer Games and experiences.

High School Grads

Joe Davis
Neil Adams
Eli Erickson
Scott Dimmick
Warren Merritt

Plans

Local College
Airforce
BYU
Moorpark/Mission
Ricks

S 1

S1 has a 50 Miler planed for the Sierras.
Dave Zeaman earned his Duty to God Award.

S 2

Spanish Lake near Yosemite was the site for our long term camp. Fishing, Camping, and swimming kept 10 boys, Varsity and Explorers cold but having lots of fun.

August will see a water skiing trip.

Our next combined activity will be a Luau at Ventura Harbor. Roasted pig will be eaten as we enjoy beach volleyball, soccer, the limbo, sandcastle building contest, hula dancing, and an evening fireside.

S 3

Youth Conference June 20 and 21: It started friday evening with a gathering at the Township building. The 40 youth were divided into several "families". Those "families" spent the night at their respective homes. There, they prepared skits, played games and got to know each other. On saturday with everyone back at the building Bishop Kovach and Brother Poppleton cooked breakfast for the "families". Skits were done in the morning, followed by a trip to Wildwood Park in T.O.. After quite a hike, several games were played, each with it's own message. All had fun, a success!

Past Activities: The older boys climbed Mt. Pinos. The younger boys did Baden-Powell.

Summer Activities: Younger boys are going on a long term trip to the High Sierra's. The Older boys are going to Wyoming. A 10 mile hike is planned for July.

S 4

Troop 665 had a fun time at Camp Chawanakee on Shaver Lake the last week of June. It was the camp's 50th anniversary, which meant for a lot of special activities and celebrations. On the way home we drove through Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Park. "Those were some really big trees" the boys had never seen trees so tall.

In August we start to do practice hikes for our Grand Canyon trip next April.

S 5

For Winter camp the boys went to Death Valley. Fun in the cactus meant exploring ghost towns, mines, and natural and historical phenomena.

Summer Camp - The Scouts spent 4 days on the western lakes in Yosemite Park hiking, fishing and camping. And on the last day Whitewater rafting down the Merced River in Class IV water! The boys have been preparing for several months.

The Varsity team has plans to go to the council fishing tournament at Crowley lake later this summer.

We had a Moonlight hike for a combined activity where we tried to see comets, stars and planets. July's Activity will be a Drama nite.

Youth conference will be September 4-6 at Pismo. The theme will be "Eyes to See, Ears to Hear and Hearts to Feel".

High School Grads

Mark Basil - honors(Literature,English) CIF Soccer

Ryan Williams

Colton Smith

Joshua Miles - GED honors(Literature)

Seminary Grads

Mark Basil - (100%-4yrs)

Ryan Williams

Colton Smith

Personal Notes

Mike Dickerson has formed a band that has played at the Reagan Library with David Lane(S2), Charlie Peck(S2), and Matt Pollaso(NM). They have several original numbers. They are all part of the Royal High Jazz band and were highly rated at the Santa Barbara Jazz festival.

Jason Hoffman has received his Certified Lifeguard.

Jonathan Hoffman was a member of the undefeated Freshman football team.

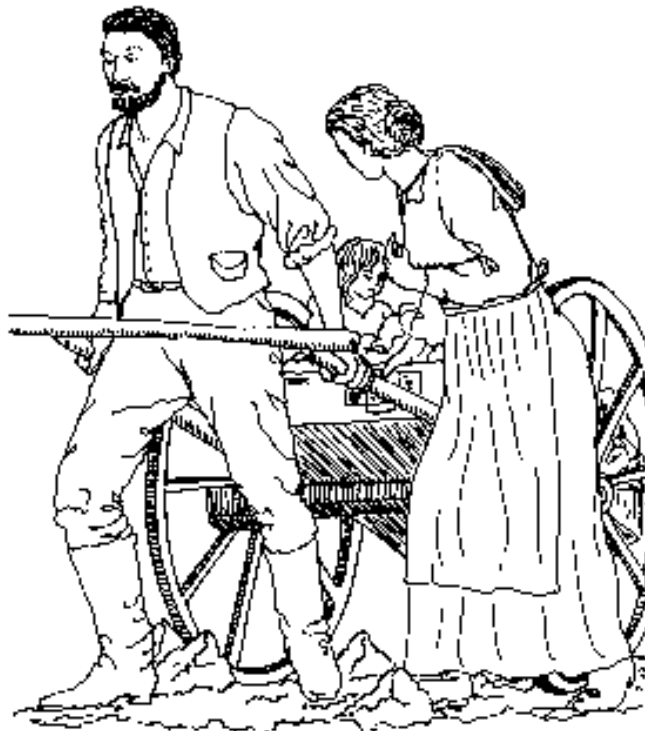
Jason Miles received an award for Most Inspirational on the Freshman Basketball team. He was a member of Royal High's JV 1st place volleyball team and won an award for academic honors.

Sean Southworth composed and performed some original music at the final concert for Santa Susana High School. He also starred in a production of "The Pajama Game".

The new Freshman Class president is our own Sean McIntire. Sean and Mike Carr received the Presidential Academic Fitness Award at Junior High graduation.

Ryan Booth has been accepted to the English Honors program at Royal after serving for a year in Sinaloa Leadership.

"Living the Legacy"



Pioneer Day saw a few of the already completed handcars show up for the parade. The big question on everyone's mind is "how far to we have to push the cart on our trek?". Well the best answer that we have for you is that it won't be as far as the Saints pushed theirs 150 years ago. This event will be a must do for all the Young Men. Plan now to make it a priority, you won't want to miss it.

Bishops and Young Men Leaders please see to it that your boys are involved in the construction/painting of "their" handcart. It is simply amazing to us, as we try to duplicate the quality of construction, how well the early saints did with the tools of the day. We are worried that our carts will hold up for only a few hours, theirs held up for months!

FIND US ON THE WEB!

our address is

CPOA.NET/SVLDS

Now you can get informed
with the click of a mouse.

Our site should be up and running
mid August