



Outdoor Christian Ministries Informational Newsletter

www.ocmtx.org

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512-497-7050

From Bill Evans

Dale,

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for one fantastic weekend. Tell the Executive Guide, aka The Old Man, that I look forward to the next opportunity I may have to harass him. You have the summer youth retreats during which some are touched and placed on the starting point for an exciting and meaningful life where they will find the ultimate Guide who will show them the path to redemption. You will probably never know how many are touched by the touching of one.

What you call a hunt is, in fact, my retreat. I know the path but lose my way sometimes in the maze of everyday living. It is our talks that remind me to re-establish my priorities and rejoin the journey started years ago. I leave OCM humbled by the good being done and motivated to positively affect someone's life through reaffirmation of my faith through my actions.

Thank you for what you do for others and for reminding me what really matters.

Respectfully,

Bill Evans



May 2014 Retreat:
Youth in Prayer led by Rodeo Long

President's Ponderings

2014 is our seventh year of operation. We continued to have over 300 guests at the ranch in 2012 and 2013 and held retreats at both the Tierritas and the Espejo camps.

During the Winter 2013 OCM board meeting, the 3 board members decided that it would be in the best interest of OCM if we reduced our time load and a few of the expenses by focusing on operating the Espejo camp and pasture and eliminating the Tierritas pasture. It was clear to us that we could accomplish our mission with the housing and thousands of acres provided at the Espejo. The Espejo pasture and its headquarters include a higher level of housing, a swimming pool, and it is only 6 miles from the paved road as opposed to 16 miles to the Tierritas. The Espejo also has a caretaker that is at the ranch most of the time.

The transition has gone well. John Meyer and Pastor Walker worked closely with us from December 2013 through March 2014 on many details. Clifford, Andy and I moved over 16 pickup loads of tools, furniture and supplies in about 60 days. Volunteers moved 2 game blinds and 2 game feeders in April. Volunteers have conducted 4 retreats in 2014 through May.



Two volunteers, Rick Garza and "Rodeo" Long, have become more of an integral part of our retreats beginning in the early fall of 2013. Rick brings a lot of outdoor experience. Rodeo first attended an OCM retreat about 6 years ago as a teenager. Since that time, Rodeo has graduated college and is a lay preacher. Rick has helped with numerous ranch tasks and Rodeo is providing Bible lessons during retreats.

It is an honor for all of us to serve through the OCM activities.

May God Continue to Bless all Guests and Volunteers,
Dale Burnett
OCM President

Testimonials

From Jason Ashworth - February, 2014

Dale,

Thank you for letting our group hunt on the OCM property. I think you are doing a great job using God's nature to share His Gospel. It was a real treat to see and experience the land and animals. Thanks again for the opportunity!

Best regards,
Jason

From Dale Hancock – August, 2012

Wow! How time flies by. My 2nd Alamo City Church Men’s Spring Retreat has come and gone. Before I get into the details of the retreat I want to sincerely thank OMC for again allowing us to use the Tierritas Ranch Headquarters for our base camp this year. Special thanks goes out to (Little Dale) Dale Burnett, Phil Bynum and Mike Schneider for getting down there ahead of us to make sure everything was in working order, thank you and God bless you all. The retreat would not have been a success without these three guys.

The retreat started on Friday night and went through Sunday. As we all know, the devil works overtime trying to spoil God’s plans. Friday night went smooth; we got 70 men placed into the houses where they would sleep. Saturday morning we awoke and we had NO WATER! Wow! Adapt and overcome. I spent 40+ years in the U.S. Coast Guard and our motto was “Semper Paratus” (Always Ready). About 2 hours later the well man showed up and we found out that the water well was dry. My right hand man Gary Miller jumped on it; he and a crew came together and hauled water from several wells so we could wash dishes and very sparingly flush toilets. “Be not dismayed.” God’s word went out and the retreat went on. Our 1st session started as Pastor David Walker led the men. We sang songs and lifted our prayers to Our Lord.

On Saturday we had our usual outdoor competitions like pistol, rifle, skeet, archery and fishing. At the end of the day we came together for a hearty meal and the men sat and talked enjoying each other’s company. On Sunday morning my son Greg gave the men a powerful testimony on running from God. You can run but you can’t hide. God’s word never comes back void. I lead the men in an altar call. Two young men accepted the Lord, as of this writing one of them has been baptized. Praise the Lord. We crowned our outdoor champions, cleaned up and headed back to the big city. The whole scenario goes to show you that if you keep your eyes on Jesus, He will never forsake or leave you. It’s all about Jesus.

May the Lord richly bless you,
“Big” Dale Hancock



From Tommy Jeter - February, 2012

I have never been on a deer lease that was as good of a place to bring our family and spend quality time outdoors. I will keep in touch and God bless.

Thanks, Tom

From Eric Eggleston - May, 2013

Dale and Andy –

I wanted to thank ya'll once again on behalf of David and me for having us to your place and for your hospitality. We had a wonderful time and although we are blessed to be able to hunt on our place it is always nice to visit a new place. Ya'll have a great set up and an amazing family. Ya'll are truly blessed. Thanks to all of ya'll and Mike and Clifford once again. This weekend made me think of my granddad which I do often, especially when in the outdoors. He was the one who taught me to hunt and fish and was my hero. I know he would be smiling down Sunday morning when David, who is named after him, got his hog.

Many thanks again,
Eric

From Dana Greenly – February, 2014

Dale,

We had a great time at the ranch, what a beautiful place you have there! I personally had a great experience and can't wait to come back. Everyone I spoke to felt the same way as I do. I am already looking at dates for next year.

Thank you again Dale, I really appreciated the presentation that you gave to us as well, great job.

Dana A. Greenly

From Chris Sides – May, 2014

Dale,

I really appreciate the hospitality that OCM has shown us. I want to thank all of the guides including Clifford, Andy, Mike, Rick and Rodeo.

Chris Sides

From Eugene Pryor – June, 2014

My children and I have been blessed to have hunted in such a Christian environment. The ranch is definitely our chapel "getaway". When I have had the opportunity to help with the retreats, I have been blessed.

Thank you,
Eugene Pryor

Vice President's Note

I have been blessed to serve with an amazing group of people at Outdoor Christian Ministries (OCM) since 2008. It has been and continues to be one of the most rewarding endeavors of my life. Our lives change over time and certain things gain more importance. One of those things for me is my faith. We are called to be Christ-like in all that we do. OCM has given me a chance to put my faith into action while doing some of the things that I have grown up enjoying. Doing these things in the South Texas brush country is a nice little bonus. We ask all our retreat participants to just look for God as they go about their activities. Like the pilgrims on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-33) we learn that God has been with us all along we just could not see him. These are the seeds we try to plant during an OCM retreat no matter the age group or demographic. My prayer is that our retreat participants will remember that as well as the many other memories made on an OCM retreat.

At OCM I have been involved in all parts of this wonderful ministry. It has changed somewhat since its inception. Our model has been tweaked from time to time, mostly based on the type of group we will be hosting. What I believe is the most rewarding aspect of what we do is provide an opportunity to minister to each other and share the Gospel with each other and those who visit with us on retreat. We always spend some quiet time just gazing at the expansive and formidable terrain. It puts our lives in context and instills a sense of humility and gratitude. I am truly thankful for the opportunity to serve in this ministry.

Blessings,

Mike Schneider

Retreat Photos

The Youth Retreat All-In-One-Day Hat-Trick!!!



“Making Memories for God’s Children”



Fellowship and discussion after their Gospel message



2014 OCM Leadership

Officers:

Dale Burnett	President	512-497-7050
Mike Schneider	Vice President	512-750-9776
Jay Gunn	Secretary/Treasurer	512-964-4550

Guides:

Clifford Graef	Senior Guide & Maintenance Support	512-870-7940
Andy Burnett	Guide & Web Site	512-415-1247
Matt Burnett	Guide & Mechanical Support	512-913-5163
Rick Garza	Guide	512-529-4976
Phil Bynum	Guide	210-241-2434
"Rodeo" Long	Speaker	210-288-9640
Joshua Burnett	Speaker and Guide	512-468-1112
Joe Gunn	Guide	512-964-4454
Pastor David Walker	Advisor	210-394-2795

Food & Housekeeping:

Corinna Gunn	Food & Housekeeping Support	512-964-4551
Pattie Burnett	Food & Housekeeping Support	512-497-3539
Robbie Burnett	Food & Housekeeping Support	512-797-6949

Donations:

OCM has been blessed by many monetary donations, small and large. OCM has also been blessed with non-cash donations including those of labor. OCM is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and your contribution is tax deductible. If you wish to donate materials or equipment, call Dale Burnett.

If you wish to make a monetary donation via credit card, then please use the PayPal "Donate" button located in the upper right hand corner of our web pages (www.ocmtx.org). You do not need to have a PayPal account; they will simply charge your credit card for the specific dollar amount that you enter. If you wish to donate monetarily, please make your check out to "Outdoor Christian Ministries" and mail it to:

Dale Burnett
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Driftwood, Texas 78619