

# News & Notes

*From the Director*

January 11, 2008

Truth comes from the strangest places sometimes, doesn't it? When my kids were small I remember reading to them the story of the *Velveteen Rabbit*. The Velveteen Rabbit asked, "What is REAL?" What IS real? I started thinking. The Skin Horse gave the best answer:

"Real isn't how you are made," said the Skin Horse. "It's a thing that happens to you. When a child loves you for a long, long time, not just to play with, but REALLY loves you, then you become Real."

"Does it hurt?" asked the Rabbit.

"Sometimes," said the Skin Horse, for he was always truthful. When you are Real you don't mind being hurt."

"Does it happen all at once, like being wound up," he asked, "or bit by bit?"

"It doesn't happen all at once," said the Skin Horse. "You become. It takes a long time.

That's why it doesn't often happen to people who break easily, or have sharp edges, or who

have to be carefully kept. Generally, by the time you are Real, most of your hair has been loved off, and your eyes drop out, and you get loose in the joints, and very shabby. But these things don't matter at all because once you are Real you can't be ugly – except to people who don't understand."

Are WE real to our children – our students? "Realness" doesn't happen to people with "sharp edges," to people who "break easily," or to people who have to be "carefully kept."

God spoke to me through this wonderful story. He wants us to be "real" – genuine. That's what our children need too! The Skin Horse said that "by the time you are Real most of your hair has been loved off and your eyes drop out and you get loose in the joints and very shabby." I feel like that sometimes – do you? But, it's worth it – in order to become REAL!

Tim Thompson, Director

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## BUILDING UPDATE

Since our last update, we have continued to receive contributions toward the building project. An additional \$100,000 came in during the last two weeks. About \$20,000 of that was from the mailing which was sent to about 1,700 people just before Christmas.

We still have a significant need of nearly \$300,000 to close on the high school building. Please do not become weary of praying for this project.

On another topic, please keep the date February 7 open on your calendar for the February Association meeting. Along with several updates and business matters, there will be an election of board members, since three board member's terms expire, as well as the approval of a planning budget.

Keith Strasser, Board President



OMAHA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY  
P R E S E N T S

# A Valentine Celebration!

February 12, 2008 at the  
Union Pacific Center at 14th Street  
and Douglas in downtown Omaha

Doors open at 5:00pm

Dining 5:15pm to 6:15pm  
Catering provided by Guckenheimer

Concert with Chapmans  
6:30pm to 9:30pm

Tickets are \$50 per person  
and are available through  
Tuesday, February 5, 2008

Call **(402) 399-9565**

For more information go to  
[www.omahachristianacademy.com](http://www.omahachristianacademy.com)

**An evening with Steve & Annie Chapman!**

With over twenty-five years of ministering through music, Steve and Annie Chapman continue to hold the family as the theme of their lyrics. Using songs from numerous recordings ranging in subjects from marriage to the challenges of parenting, the Chapmans present music and stories that are designed to encourage all who attend. Steve and Annie are also experienced and effective marriage seminar presenters. Their music and stories, video clips and unforgettable visual props make plain the marriage building truths from the Scriptures.

*Steve & Annie Chapman*



## OCA Quiz Bowl

On January 5th the OCA Quiz Bowl Team competed in the Elkhorn High School Quiz Bowl Invitational. OCA was able to take three teams to participate in this event, with the following results: Out of 18 teams in the Advanced division, the team of Caleb White, Luke Henkenius, Wyatt Wirges and Katie Arant took fourth place. The team of Laura Henkenius, Lauren Strasser, Michelle Gingrich, Pam Zimmerle, and Cassie West fell to the team from Woodbine in the afternoon round. The Novice team of Kathryn White, Josh Buckingham-Weibel, Sean West and Kendra Strasser were seeded third out of eight teams before falling to Elkhorn in the afternoon round.

Our next competition will be here in Omaha at the Educational Service Unit on Friday, February 1st.

~Coach Arant

## TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY

Teacher Appreciation Day is March 1st. We will be honoring our teachers the week of March 3rd. Room parents will be organizing activities for the elementary teachers. Parents of middle school and high school teachers may send monetary donations to school (checks made payable to OCA are tax deductible). Gift certificates will be purchased and distributed to the middle school and high school teachers. A luncheon will be provided for all teachers on Tuesday, March 4. If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact Margie Thierstein by Pass-a-Note on Sycamore Education.



## School Calendar

Jan. 11	JV B BB/V G&B BB @ Brownell 4:30/6:00/7:30 pm
Jan. 12	MS G BB vs. Mead - 10:00 am @ Central Christian Gym
Jan. 12	JV B BB/V G&B BB @ NE Lutheran - 4:00/5:45/7:30 pm
Jan. 14	MS G BB @ Cedar Bluffs - 4:00 pm
Jan. 14	Board Meeting - 6:30 pm
Jan. 17	Moms In Touch - 8:30-9:30 am
Jan. 17	V G BB vs Boystown @ Grace U. - 7:00 pm
Jan. 18	Booster Club Meeting - 8:00 am
Jan. 18	Science Fair - Activity Room - 7:00
Jan. 19	NFC G&B BB Tournament @ Pra-
Jan. 21	No School
Jan. 21	NFC G BB Tournament @ Prague
Jan. 22	MS G BB @ ISD - 3:30 pm
Jan. 22	NFC B BB Tournament @ Prague
Jan. 24	Moms In Touch - 8:30-9:30 am
Jan. 24	NFC G&B BB Tournament @ Pra-
Jan. 25	JV B BB/V G&B BB vs Lourdes - 5:00/6:30/8:00 pm - Location TBA NHS Servant Auction
Jan. 28	MS G BB @ Trinity - TBA
Jan. 28	Board Meeting - 6:30 pm
Jan. 31	Moms In Touch - 8:30-9:30 am
Jan. 31	V G BB @ College View - 7:00 pm

## OCA SPELLING BEE RESULTS



OCA held their school wide Spelling Bee on Tuesday, January 9th. The students' hard work in preparation was evident as we listened to them spell word after word correctly. Congratulations, students!

### Grade 1

1st Place: John Lim; 2nd Place: Hannah Tulsie; Sarah Krehbiel, Alex Wagoner, Jessica Evans

### Grade 2

1st Place: Joanna James; 2nd Place: Elizabeth Hawk; Cassady Hansen, Mitchell Taylor

### Grade 3

1st Place: Maddie Schmidt; 2nd Place: Grant Rye; Serenity Bryce, Dalton Wirges

### Grade 4

1st Place: Brooke Pickette; 2nd Place: Steven Gregory; Jeremy James, Mikayla Arrington

### Grade 5

1st Place: Hannah Lindsey; 2nd Place: Rachel Lee; Kaitlyn Pearson, McKenna Lewis

### Grade 6

1st Place: Amanda Krehbiel, 2nd Place: Erin Clifton; Mikayla Rye, Rachel Walter, Clay Hamilton, Zach Lee, Kristin Nupson, Curtis Byal

### Grade 7

1st Place: Olivia Lovgren; 2nd Place: Alia Brown; Joshua Roberts, Grace Stiansen

### Grade 8

1st Place: Mark Clifton, 2nd Place: Heather Rozema; Brian Zank, Steven Putman

## CALENDAR CHANGES



March 13-14 will be normal school days

Spring Break will be Friday, March 21-Friday, March 28

**OMAHA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY  
SCIENCE FAIR  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 18  
ACTIVITY ROOM**

**6:30-7:30 pm**

**6:30-7:10 - Students stand by projects; Parents view projects**

**7:10-7:20 - Awards Ceremony in the adjacent Church Sanctuary on 2nd floor**

**7:20-7:30 - View Projects**

**7:30 - Students remove projects and return them to Mrs. Dommel's classroom.**



Mrs. Dommel is still looking for judges to judge on Friday morning. Please PAN her on Sycamore Education or call for more details.

If you would like to contribute a monetary gift towards the Science Fair awards, please send your tax deductible donation to the school office.

## 5th & 6th Graders...



Have you ever thought that you would like to play basketball — or perhaps some day play basketball in Middle School or High School? You have an opportunity to play now, and get some experience! The 5th/6th grade boys YMCA basketball team really needs at least 2 more players! The season's first game is January 12th. If you are interested in playing, please call or PAN Terri Zimmerle and let her know. Then go to OCA's website, download the basketball form from Youth Sports link. Turn in the form and money to the school office. All late fees will be waived under these circumstances.

## College Prep Day at UNO

Kaplan and UNO will be hosting a College Prep Day at UNO on Saturday, January 26 at the Milo Bail Student Center. Kaplan is offering a free practice ACT test and the seminar "Accepted: Getting into Your Top Choice School", and UNO is sponsoring sessions on financial aid and scholarships. This is a great opportunity for students to find out how they might score on the real ACT and to learn more about the college admission process. The seminar and financial aid sessions are also a great opportunity for parents to get important information. To enroll call 1-800-KAP-TEST. The practice test code is AKOM8001.

## *Guidance Corner*

- ⇒ Seniors interested in pre-law or pre-medicine may be eligible to apply for scholarships at Washburn University. If interested contact the guidance office.
- ⇒ High school juniors and seniors who demonstrate a commitment to understanding ethics, honesty and accountability may be eligible for a scholarship opportunity through the Better Business Bureau. Scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded to three students. Deadline is Feb. 15. For more information visit [www.bbbnebraska.org](http://www.bbbnebraska.org).
- ⇒ Best Buy is offering a scholarship opportunity that rewards students for all of their work, inside and outside of the classroom. Deadline is February 15. Apply for this scholarship: [www.bestbuy.com/scholarships](http://www.bestbuy.com/scholarships).
- ⇒ High school students interested in a career in the healthcare field may want to participate in the Clarkson College Healthcare Explorer Program. The first meeting is on Tuesday, Jan. 22, in Howard Hall at Clarkson College Student Center, 104th S. 41st St. It will start at 6:30 and go until 8:00 pm. There is a \$25 participation fee.
- ⇒ High school students interested in Physical Therapy and/or Occupational Therapy may want to participate in the Creighton University Exploring Program. The first meeting is on Tuesday, Jan. 29, from 6:00-7:30 pm. It will take place at Creighton University's Boyne Building, Room 116, located at 2802 Webster (approx. 30th and California streets northeast of the parking lot from Creighton Univ. Medical Center hospital). There is a \$25 registration fee.
- ⇒ The Douglas County Sheriff Crime Scene Investigators are hosting a C.S.I. Day in Omaha for youth ages 14-20. It will take place on Jan. 26, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, at the Douglas Co. Sheriff's Office, 3601 N. 156th St. (Southeast corner of 156th and Maple). The cost is \$25. If interested in attending contact Arli Hasbrouck at 431-9272 or [ahasbrouck@mac-bsa.org](mailto:ahasbrouck@mac-bsa.org).
- ⇒ The Assistance League of Omaha is offering an ACT Review Course at Westside High School. The course consists of two sessions with an optional third session for the writing portion of the test. Both sessions must be attended to receive full coverage. The first session will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 5 from 6:30-9:30 pm. The second session will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 6 from 6:30-9:30 pm. The optional third session will be held on Thursday, Feb. 7 from 6:30-8:30 pm. There is a \$30 registration fee for two sessions and \$40 for all three. Registration forms are available in the guidance office.

### **Calendar:**

Jan. 18 - Late ACT Registration  
Dead line for Feb. 9 Test

Jan. 24 - Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Rep Visit

Jan 26 - College Prep Day at  
UNO

Jan. 29 - SAT Registration Dead-  
line for March 1 Test

Feb. 7 - Late SAT Registration  
Dead- line for March 1 Test

Feb. 7 - Baker University Rep  
Visit

### ***BOOSTER CLUB MEETING***

Calling all Boosters to meet in the cafeteria next Friday at 8:00 am. Please come and help support the Booster Club.

### ***NEED A CALENDAR FOR 2008?***

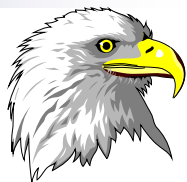
Get your Booster Club calendar in the school office free of charge and be in the know for all OCA events!

## OMAHA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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*A Christian Community of Learning*

### IMPORTANT

Please check Sycamore Education for the most up to date information regarding cancellations of any school events due to inclement weather.

## GATE/CONCESSION/CLEAN-UP

Thursday, Jan. 17 at Grace U. vs Boystown

Varsity Girls - 7:00 pm

Gate: 6:30-8:00 pm - Dave & Marilyn Bryce

Concessions: 6:45-8:30 pm - Dan & Pam Rozema and John & Sherrie Lindsey

Clean-up: Vilter's & Junior Families



## NHS SERVANT AUCTION

The National Honor Society will be hosting their annual Servant Auction during the basketball games on January 25. If you have jobs that need to be done and need great workers to get it done, this is the place to be. Several NHS student's skills and abilities will be available to the highest bidder. The auction will start during half time of the varsity girl's game and continue between the varsity games and during halftime of the varsity boy's game.

## School Lunch Menu

	Entree	Sides/Dessert
Jan. 14	HOT—Hamburger on a Bun COLD—Cottage Cheese & Jelly Sandwich	Tiny Triangles Fresh Apple Bear Cookie
Jan. 15	HOT—Grilled Chicken Alfredo w/ Bowtie Pasta COLD—Turkey Salami on a Bagel	Lettuce Salad Breadstick Strawberry Shortcake
Jan. 16	HOT—Crispy Tacos COLD—Grilled Chicken Salad Box	Lettuce & Cheese Cup Cheesy Beanies Banana Snicker Doodle Cookie
Jan. 17	HOT—Grilled Cheese Sandwich & Tomato Soup COLD—Cottage Cheese & Fruit	Celery Sticks Applesauce School Fuel
Jan. 18	HOT—Chicken Nuggets COLD—Taco Salad Box	Baby Carrots Peach Cup Dinner Roll Frosted Honey Graham

Students may choose yogurt & cheese stick as a main dish alternative.

Milk will be served with all meals.

**Cost:** \$2.45(K-4); \$2.60 (5-12); \$1.00 Extra Entrees

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

## ATTENTION STUDENTS

You may have noticed a sign in the hallway about a "Prayer Locker". If you have a prayer request on your mind and would like to share it, please write it on a piece of paper and slip it into the locker designated "Prayer Locker". A group of students (see below) will meet each week and pray for your requests. **Any** prayer requests can be anonymous and **all** prayer requests will be kept confidential.

**All** high school students are welcome to meet in Mr. Folken's room at lunch every Thursday. This is a time of encouragement, sharing and prayer. Share what you have discovered in your personal Bible study, what God is doing in your life, etc. Come every week... Come once a month... Come whenever you can! Come to meet with fellow students, share and pray with them.