

S.W.A.T. Team

SERVANTS WITH A TOOL

July-September 2006

Issue #32

“Providing Labor of Love for Christ-Centered Ministries”

SWAT Team Provides Boost to Tapestry

By Doug Schmidt

On Saturday, July 29 I had the privilege of working with the S.W.A.T. Team as we tackled several projects at the future home of the Tapestry Church of the Nazarene in downtown Raleigh. The Lord has blessed this congregation with a building in the heart of the city.

While the main building is old, much work has already been done to bring it up to code and to reconfigure it to suit the many uses which are anticipated such as: headquarters for the HOSTS mentoring program, offices, worship space, and kitchen facilities. Also located on the lot is a BIG garage which currently serves as a storage facility but has potential for many other uses.

Our first job of the day was to clean up the outside area and put excess building materials in one section of the garage. Then we were assigned to the various tasks, and after a time of prayer we began work. George King and I both like to take things apart so we agreed to demolish the rotten canopy that covered the main entrance. Even though a strong wind could have done the job it took us all morning. Of course we took it down piece by piece and managed not to have any of it (except for pieces of rotten debris) fall on our heads. It was a fairly hot day and by the time we finished we kind of looked like half drowned coal miners. Never the less they let us join the rest of the crew for a pizza lunch.

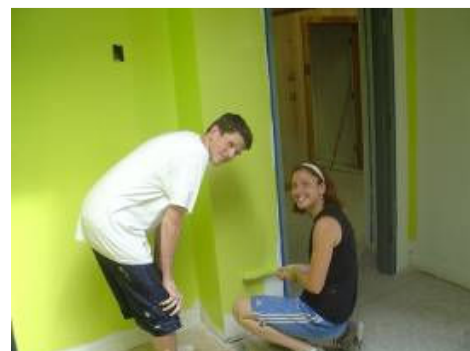
After eating, the rest of the gang went back to their activities of repairing and painting interior walls. Since I was already a mess from working outside I decided to mow a section of the "lawn". Most of it was at least knee high and was a struggle to work on with a small rotary mower. Fortunately the mower ran out of gas about the same time I did and it was quitting time.

Much was accomplished and I look forward to more projects at that location and even more to seeing what the Lord will do with this facility that will be dedicated to serving those who need help and who need to come to know Jesus as Savior and Lord.

(On September 23rd 12 SWAT Team members returned to continue the painting project.)



Doug and George were the "Demolition Crew" for the day.



Spencer Hathcock and Richelle Hollingshead had a great time applying the colorful "golden cricket" paint

SWAT Team Helps Haws Run Church Raise New Steeple

On August 11-12, the SWAT Team joined in with almost all the members of the Haws Run Nazarene Church to complete several projects. The biggest goal was to “raise the steeple”. Other accomplishments included the erection of a new church sign by the teenagers (under the direction of Rashod Adkins), and installation of vinyl flooring in the fellowship hall. The participation of almost all of the church people over the course of the two days was nothing short of amazing. Thanks go to the women of the church for supplying the great meals for the Team. Pastor Ed Hosier certainly has a church with dedicated people!



Lee McKiethan puts final touches on the new steeple



The Teens enjoyed installing the new sign with Rashad Adkins





Demolition at SC Nazarene Camp

Over Labor Day Weekend, 39 SWAT Team members joined together at the SC Nazarene Campground for the 4th time. Director, Rev. Dennis Johnson, gave the Team the unique project of tearing down a cabin that was termite infested. So, one board at a time, the structure was demolished! Some Team Members seemed to especially enjoy using the sledge hammers! ☺ Many of the boards were de-nailed so they can be re-used.

The Teens took it upon themselves to transform an old bath-house into a storage shed, which included knocking out walls and removing toilets and sinks.

Many of the mothers worked with the smaller children and helped them pick up branches and roots and haul them to the woods. The “electrical crew” installed switches and lights in the motel rooms.

Our thanks again go to Dennis, his wife, Bonnie, and their kitchen crew who treated us like royalty in the way they cooked and took care of the Team. This year’s secret Soft-serve ice cream recipe was a big hit with everyone!



SWAT “team work” made it possible to dismantle this cabin in only 2 days!

SWAT Leaders Participate in 2 National Events

Two "national" events were held in September. Jim Stewart, President, and the Blakeman family represented the SWAT Team at Golden Bell Nazarene Camp, near Colorado Springs, CO. They assisted other volunteers, already at the camp, apply tar paper to the roof of the new edition. This will allow the camp director to have the metal roof installed before the snow hits.

From there, Jim and the Blakeman's traveled further west to Shonto, Arizona. There they helped several men and women of the Navaho Nazarene congregation hang and mud sheet rock in their new sanctuary. Jim and several members of the SWAT Team had assisted in the setting of the footers for that structure last year. It was great to see that the building project has continued to make so much progress!



Jim, and the Blakeman's help Harley install the "ice shield" strips on the new addition to the Golden Bell Camp lodge



Jim, who has a passion for helping Native Americans, enjoyed working with the Navaho men of the Shonto Nazarene Church

Your Opportunity to Help SWAT

Whether you have had the privilege of attending a SWAT event or not, there is a way you can participate in the SWAT Team ministry. We are totally dependent upon donations to meet our administrative expenses. Any gifts that exceed these expenses go towards tools and project materials, which are needed for host sites who are unable to afford materials.

If you're able to provide a tax-deductible donation through a one-time gift or an on-going basis, it would be greatly appreciated! Make your checks payable to "SWAT Team", 1012 Cedar Knoll Dr. Wake Forest, NC 27587.

* Letter of Appreciation from Rev. Dennis Johnson, Director of SC District Campground (9-8-06) *

"Steve, just want to say "THANK YOU" again to the whole SWAT team. The dumpster was emptied today and is ready to fill again. Each time I visit that cabin site I am overwhelmed with thoughts of the tremendous gift of love and grace bestowed on us last weekend. I have no idea how that old building would have come down without SWAT. I hope that we were able to minister to the team during their visit. Please give them our regards, and thanks for the ice cream secret!"

"Use your whole body as a tool to do what is right for the glory of God." Rom 6:13b (NLT)

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Want More Information?

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The S.W.A.T. Team is an all volunteer non-denominational ministry, and a non-profit corporation. Service opportunities include construction, remodeling, landscaping, evangelism, education, administration, fundraising, grant writing. When participating in events, transportation, food, lodging and personal insurance must be provided by individual team members.