

*From Where I Sit . . .*

## **"LADS AND LEADERETTES NATIONAL CONVENTION"**

We're just weeks away now from time to attend the Lads to Leaders and Leaderettes National Convention at Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee. This is a first-time experience for Broad Street, and comes on the heels of completing our first "in-class" studies in the L/L curriculum.

We're blessed with good teachers and the initial quarter of studies got off the ground with a minimum of bumps and bruises. I think the students are already showing signs of warming up to the program and many will be involved in service projects, and specialty preparation for leadership in the local church for the next few years of their youth term at Broad Street.

They need this trip to convention to whet their appetites on personal growth and achievement as they will see it demonstrated by thousands of boys and girls. I'm convinced that they will come home motivated to want to be very active in many of the 26 general categories of growth and development that will be accented at convention. Public speaking is only the tip of the iceberg. There are 6 categories of Art Says It; 3 categories of Group Banners; Puppets as well as Advanced Puppeteering; 2 categories of Scrapbook; then Bible Bowl -- written test high scores and oral rounds; Bible Reading (5 levels of Advanced for older students plus oral rounds for the younger children); 4 levels of merit in Centurion of Scriptures (memorizing 100 verses); 3 levels of achievement in Good Samaritan projects that are recognized; Debate for the older and eager achievers; 6 divisions of Mass Media - Editorials, Audio Presentations, Video Presentations, Storyline (Bible drama), Web Page, Group Web Page; Under Music Composition there are 7 categories in which students may enter their song writing entries; Prevent Disaster Posters and Written Tests; The Parade of Winners to recognize students who have read the entire Old or New Testament in a given year plus entered in at least two convention events; A special recognition to servant achievers called the Jonathan Bourland Award; a category of Bartimaeus events for those with learning or physical disabilities that make participation more difficult; Men's and Women's Song Leading divisions and Winners' Circle divisions; Men's and Women's Speech divisions and Winners' Circle divisions.

There will be somewhere above 9500 attending in Nashville and another 4000 in Atlanta the same weekend. We are thankful to have a first-time group of 52 attending. Some will go up on Thursday evening after school and work; others will come up on Friday after the younger school grades finish state-wide testing.

We will have a meeting of all students and adults attending convention, plus parents, to set up final travel arrangements and share needed information, trip guidelines, financial accounting, and many other pieces of important information.

..... Terry Broome

**Team Meeting March 24 after services Wednesday night in the Multi-Purpose Room.**

**Convention Dates: April 8-11**

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