

THE VALLEY VIEW

SUMMER 2008

A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR ADULTS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION AND INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

ONE YEAR OLD!!



Pam Langford



Pam Pepper



Elise Micinnis



Kristie B.



Jodi Hilbun



Billy Crain



Ken Tullos



Amanda Dodd



Candi B.



Sandra Wadford

**JULY 5TH
MARKS OUR ONE
YEAR ANNIVERSARY!**



Edie Thornton

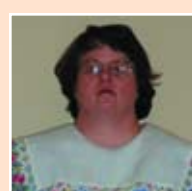


Zoe Boyd



Carla M.

**Meet our
History-Making
20 Residents!**



Dena Martin



Susan Sudduth



Jason Hammontree



Jennifer Daugherty



Karen Varner



Mike Huhn



Jan Evans

MISSION STATEMENT

SON Valley's mission is to build a quality Christian Community for adults with mental retardation, ministering to their physical, spiritual, mental, vocational and recreational needs.



Reflections on SON Valley's First Year!

It took so long to get SON Valley approved and built, that it's hard to believe we're about to celebrate our first year anniversary on July 5.

We started out with the first three ladies and now we're at capacity with 20 residents strong. We started out in the heat of summer and we've been through all the seasons and all the holidays. We've been treated like royalty with all the Christmas and birthday parties. We've been through all the emotions of people living, working, playing and praying together. We've played soccer, basketball and softball in organized competition...and we've bowled whenever we could get there. We've learned how to do new jobs at the Region 8 Workshop. We've experienced moving to a new home; then we've experienced going back for a visit with our families and then returning to SON Valley. We've learned to accept new residents who can't do as many things as everyone else...we've learned that they are our friends, too. Maybe we've never been around anyone blind before, but now we have a friend named Billy who can't see. And we've discovered that he can do some amazing things, and is willing to try anything.

We've had our ups and we've had our downs, and we thank God that there were many more ups than downs. With His help, there are many more great days ahead for SON Valley

~Bill

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Program Director Greetings

I pray this newsletter finds you and your family doing well. What an exciting time at SON Valley with all of our 20 residents! It is so wonderful to see them conversing with one another and becoming more and more established here. Weekly, your SON Valley team gathers together and holds a team meeting about our residents. The meetings are opened with a devotion and prayer. One devotional was

recently titled, "Unity in the Body of Christ". Ephesians 4:4-6 reads "There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all". This is a reminder that SON Valley is a part of something bigger than the eye can see. July 5th, 2008, will mark the 1 year anniversary of the first residents coming to SON Valley! What an exciting endeavor in history! I will be the first to tell you that there is no way SON Valley would be in existence without so

many individuals coming together in unity, unity in the Body of Christ! As a part of the church, we press forward with diligence and perseverance in maintaining our mission for our residents. I plead to you to keep SON Valley in your prayers and support as we continue to provide the best care and support for our residents.

May God Bless you!

~Sergio



Son Valley Ladies Auxiliary

Rene Brock, Pres.



The Auxiliary is having an active Spring and we invite you to participate. We've scheduled a

booth at the Farmer's Market in Jackson on May 31. We need your help making goodies (cookies, candies, jams and jellies) as well as arts and crafts items to sell. Call me if you can help (601-956-1501). We'd also like to get a booth at the Fondren/Belhaven festival on a Saturday.

At the April 29 meeting, we were privileged to have Sergio Trejo, Program Director, present a super slide show about all the activities going on at SON Valley. One of the highlights was seeing the pics of the Joy Prom night at FBC-Jackson. The residents were treated royally and loved it! It was good to learn all of the activities that

are scheduled for both the growth and enjoyment of the residents.

Don't forget, we need your annual dues--\$25; mail to Stephanie Kite, 2852 Englewood Blvd, Jackson 39212).

The next Auxiliary meeting will be 10:00 am on July 19 at Center Terrace Baptist Church in Canton. Ron Morton, local attorney and Board President, will speak to us about Elder Law, Family Trusts and Estate Planning for Special Needs individuals. It's good info we can all use and Mr. Morton is an expert. Please plan to come and join us.



CAR TAGS

The state requires 300 paid applications before it will create the new SON Valley tag. We need to receive more applications at this time so the account can be opened to draw interest. For an application, call: **Beth Sollie** • 601-857-5221 **Brenda Bozeman** • 601-857-2712 or download the application on our web site: www.sonvalley.net

Phone: (601) 859-2100 • Fax: (601) 859-2105
416 Goodloe Road
P O Box 406 • Canton MS 39046
www.sonvalley.net

SEVENTH ANNUAL FATHER'S DAY OFFERING

In all the previous Father's Day Offerings, we have been asking for money to go towards the future construction. And all of it was used for Phase I. Now that SON Valley is open, we need to pay down the construction debt. Most of you will remember that we had a lot of work to do in addition to building the two houses—we had to clear the land, build and pave the drive and parking lot and furnish the houses. Plus we had to do what most projects don't...we had to

clear the path and build well over a mile of sewer line along with manholes and a pumping station; that's very expensive. In short, we need every penny we can get to pay on the debt. Last year we collected about \$55,000 and we hope for at least that much this year.

A Father's Day envelope is included with this issue. Thank you for your kindness in helping SON Valley and our 20 residents. Their families also appreciate your generosity.

A number of churches participate in the Father's Day Offering and we greatly appreciate it. Last year **First Baptist-Jackson collected over \$14,000!!** If your church is ready and willing, we have bulletin inserts and Offering envelopes that we can send to you. Just call Shannon Fortenberry (601-859-2100, ext 225) and let her know how many inserts and/or envelopes you need.

Prom Night

By Joe Little, Activities Director



First Baptist Church of Jackson hosted Joy Prom which was an absolutely wonderful event. The theme for this year was "A Night To Shine". It was a night which will be remembered with fondness for a lifetime. The day of the event the ladies spent the early part of the day having their hair and nails done by the staff at Son Valley; while the men got their best suits ready.

The residents of Son Valley as well as all the other guests were given the royal treatment complete with red carpet and photographers. The Christian Life Center had been transformed into a ball room decorated beyond everyone's expectations. The participants had a time of fellowship with old friends and had the opportunity make new friends. The church showed a heart of ministry in providing an event which touched the lives of all those who participated.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

By Sarah Stowers, RN

It is difficult to believe that we are approaching SON Valley's first anniversary! The opening day at SON Valley was also my first day on the job as the Supervising Registered Nurse. I jumped at the chance to work at SON Valley, and I think the words "dream job" were mentioned quite a bit. That first day was amazing as we all were witness to our first two residents moving into their new home! Each day since has been often exciting, sometimes challenging but always fun.

Over the past year we have added two additional nurses to our staff. The first was Keyonie Lewis, LPN. She administers medications and any needed care to our residents Saturday and Sunday mornings as well as every night of the week. Keyonie has exemplified not only excellent nursing skills but also a genuine love for each and every resident. She often comments on the joy she receives from her part-time work at SON Valley. We could not function without her.

As SON Valley grew, we knew we needed another full time nurse to work throughout the week. I immediately thought of Lashawn Marbra, LPN. Lashawn and I had previously worked together at another facility. There



Lashawn Marbra, LPN

I saw first hand what an amazing nurse she is but more impressively what a kind and giving heart she has. Lashawn jumped at the chance to work at SON Valley and has proved to be an asset from her first day, just ask the residents!

We as a nursing staff give medications, provide general medical care, transport to and from doctor's appointments, coordinate visits with our Medical Director and Psychiatrist, provide twenty-four hour on-call services all while making sure the residents' families and loved ones remain informed. We also lend a helping hand, an open ear and a word of encouragement whenever needed. We love all aspects of our work but more than anything the residents whom we serve. Providing the best care for our residents in a Christ centered environment makes us feel so fortunate. We say thank you every day...



Sarah Stowers, RN



Keyonie Lewis, LPN

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT!

By Kristin Powell, LMSW

Pamela Sue Langford

July 5, 2007 was a momentous day for SON Valley. At 10:00 am we admitted our first resident, Pamela Sue Langford! Pam showed up that day excited and overjoyed to be at SON Valley! One year later Pam still exhibits as much excitement about SON Valley as she did that first day. Pam has established herself as the official SON Valley greater/recruiter. Any new resident or potential resident who comes through the front doors is met by a big smile and a warm hug from Pam. She happily shows off the house and her room and then wants to know when they will be moving in! Pam is inspiring to watch because she is able to connect with anyone. We are blessed to have her and hope she keeps the same energy and excitement for many years to come.



Pamela Jo Pepper

On July 5, 2007 at 2:00 in the afternoon, SON Valley was blessed with our second resident, Pamela Jo Pepper! When Pam moved in she brought with her a love for The Lord, a love for life and love for anyone she met along the way. Pam is wonderfully kind hearted and strives to treat everyone with respect. Pam enjoys good fellowship and is an exemplary role model for her peers. Pam helps around the house without being asked and provides comfort to anyone having a bad day. Pam keeps up her correspondence with friends and family outside of SON Valley and welcomes any visitors with a handshake and kind words. We are so thankful for Pam and hope that she continues to live by example as she has done for the past year.



SON Beams (\$1,000 - 9,999)

Andrew Jackson Council
Dot McInnis
Mr & Mrs Max Crisp
Star Baptist

SON Rays (\$100 - 999)

Love SS Ridgecrest Bapt
Ridgeland
Scotland Bapt Bentonla
Center Terrace Canton
Black Jack Bapt Vaughan
FBC Raymond
Melrose BC Bentonla
Slayden BC Lamar
Broadmoor BC Madison
BYKOTA SS Class FBC
Lexington
New Goodhope BC Pulaski MS
Union West Bapt Oxford
Short Creek Baptist Church-
Yazoo City
Mrs Douglas Godfrey
Charlotte Reeves
Leslie Lewis
Mr & Mrs Alston Crawford
Parkway BC Clinton
Natalie Jolly
Anna Lowery

SON Beacons (\$1 - 99)

Raymond Garden club
Joy Spears
Mr & Mrs Harold Rickels
DP Smith WMU Broadmoor
Mrs Merle Williams
Brenda Whittington
Highland Bapt Jackson
Mr & Mrs B G Sollie
Mr & Mrs Charles Bobo
Ladis II SS Class Highland Bapt
Mary Frances McKey
Guinevere Young WMU FBC
Jackson
Sharon Leggett

MEMORIALS

Miriam Bounds
By Elizabeth Welch
Miriam Bounds
By Bob & Shawn Wilkerson
Charles Mason
By United Commercial
Travelers
Carey Litteljohn
By United Commercial
Travelers
Dot Hall
By Mr & Mrs B G Sollie
Lynn Carter
By Mr & Mrs B G Sollie
Jerry Hilburn
By Mr & Mrs B G Sollie
Elizabeth McClain
By Mrs & Mrs Oliver King
Frances Downs
By Mrs & Mrs Oliver King
Wesley Wilson
By Mr & Mrs Carl Ferguson
Stewart Wiggins
By Mr & Mrs Carl Ferguson
Pat McCormack
By Gloria Gunn

Maude Ricks

By Jack & Peggy Rice
Mrs Lucille Winstead
By Mrs & Mrs Oliver King

Joanne Thomas

By Curtis Thomas

Miriam Bounds

By Mae Bozeman

Bella Fulton

By Mr & Mrs Carl Ferguson

Deward Fountain

By Foshee Construction

Eleanor Harmond

By Swayze Farms

Zachary Bailey

By Leslie Lewis

Peggy Calhoun

By Leslie Lewis

Mandie Purvis

By Leslie Lewis

Dot Breiger

By Mr & Mrs C G Brock

Mary Helen Renfro

By Mr & Mrs C G Brock

Mary Ruth Price

By Hazel Thornton

HONORARIUMS**Hazel Thornton**

By Mrs Forest Davis

Ruth Allen

By Nettie Johns

Bobby Woods

By Terri Pigford

Bobby Woods

By Mike, Joy, Travis, Trevor &
Tanner Woods

IN KIND**Ogletree Deakins Law Firm**

3 Computers

Mr & Mrs Froggy Hayes

Ping Pong Table

EFT**Twin Lakes Bapt Madison****James & Joyce Hatch****Hazel Thornton****Ruby Wadford****Rene Brock****Hamilton Ins Agency****Kay Foshee****Mary Haslob****Rose Lang****David Menear****Lamar Gordon****Geralyn Gray-Lewis****Lamar & Clara Rodgers****Richard & Louise Benton****Judy Jones****Pauline May****CONSTRUCTION DEBT**

Mr & Mrs Gilbert Bradley
Charles & Martha Robinson
Mr & Mrs Charlie Tune
Carl Vannamen
Lori Blount
Billy Harrison
Margaret Greenfield

Mrs Odean Puckett

Margaret Fortenberry
Charlie & Sara Luttrell

Rose Jones Page

Norman Turk

Louis Rogers

Mrs William Davis

Howard & Joan Brown

Thad McCormack

Lillian Lewis

Kim Townsend

Gary & Gloria Peitz

New Covenant BC

Kathryn Starnes

Encouragers SS Class FBC Terry

Francis Henegan

Douglas Herring

John & June Watkins

Vennie Watkins

Brooks Barham

Larry Blankenship

Joy Spears

Karan Clark

Gladys Thornton

Victor & Peggy O'Connor

Mrs Thomas Wasson Jr

Betty Becker

Barbara May

Damascus BC Flora

Merle Williams

Lyndell Brumfield

Fernwood Baptist Church

SON VALLEY FRIENDS

We are proud to announce our new program for supporters who want to donate their time and talents to help SON Valley and our residents. SON VALLEY FRIENDS will be the group of volunteers who get to know and become friends with the residents.

What will they do? For instance, when we plan a trip to the zoo (or bowling, or going to Gatty Town, or even baseball games), a SON VALLEY FRIEND could go along and help one or two individuals enjoy the trip as much as possible. We always need more eyes and hands and hearts on any given outing. It's a great way to give yourself and get a lot in return.

If you're interested in becoming a SON VALLEY FRIEND, call or e-mail Joe Little, Activities Director at 601-859-2100 ext 230 or jjl@sonvalley.net.

DONORS Thank You

BOARD OF DIRECTORS**PRESIDENT**

Ron Morton

VICE PRESIDENT

Billy Causey

SECRETARY

Rene Brock

TREASURER

Kay Foshee

MEMBERS:

Tom Akin

Judy Jones

Beth Sollie

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Bill McCormack

NEW MEMBERS:

Brenda Bozeman

Dr. Randall Hendrix

WISH LIST

Small van
Basketball court &
asphalt
Top soil for garden
Softball field
Rear tine tiller
Copier with
feeder/sorter
Large smoker

MONTHLY CHURCH DONATIONS

A church budget is so important in fulfillment of the Lord's work; deciding where that money should be spent is a very serious task. In asking for churches to include us in their budgets, we know that we must use their money wisely. Son Valley has been blessed with a number of churches who have included SON Valley in their monthly budgets.

The first church to commit to a monthly donation was **Star Baptist (Star, MS)**. They will always be the first and we appreciate them. And

more churches have followed their lead.

We are happy to announce that **First Baptist – Raymond has included SON Valley in their budget for \$5000/year**. Of course, FBC-Raymond has been there all along the way. Some of the original core group were from FBC. And during construction, church member Beau Holliday did a ton of dirt work in addition to bringing in other volunteer contractors. Then the FBC-Raymond Brotherhood spent many

Saturdays at SON Valley performing various carpentry and painting jobs—they are quite a talented group. In addition, one member and one minister of FBC serve on the Baptist Homes, Inc. Board of Directors. So FBC-Raymond has made a tremendous commitment to helping SON Valley. Son Valley will reach its potential only if other churches follow the lead of FBC-Raymond.

Other Baptist churches that contribute monthly:

Broadmoor (Madison)
Twin Lakes (Madison)
Center Terrace (Canton)
Melrose (Bentonla)
Black Jack (Vaughan)
Parkway (Clinton)
Scotland (Bentonla)
Highland (Jackson)
Union West (Oxford)

We appreciate all of their generosity and invite other churches to join in a monthly pledge. That's what will build Phase II and beyond.



Residents attend Dreamcatcher Ranch!



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Bowling trips
Basketball league (Ridgeland)
Challenge League Softball (Ridgeland)
Madison County Healthplex
Horseback riding
Shopping
Museum
Central Hills Camp
Camp Bratton-Green

KROGER CARD UPDATE

SON Valley supporters can help us raise money by using a Kroger Gift Card. Anytime you use the Card to buy groceries (or gas or pharmacy items...anything!), Kroger will donate **5% of the purchase** to us. It does not cost you any money; you simply put money on the Gift Card and use the Card to make your purchase. Our last monthly check from Kroger was **\$1165.55!** To order your Kroger Card, simply call Shannon Fortenberry at 601-859-2100 ext 225.



Gatti Town Outing!



Bradford Chapel Baptist Church-Senior Adult Group provides lunch for SON Valley! We enjoyed the food and the wonderful piano playing!



SON Valley staff participate in MANDT Training!



Gatti Town Outing!



Residents begin baseball!



Visit to the zoo!



Lunch at the Canton Flea Market!



Ogden Baptist Church donates various activities for the residents. Jason is pleased to receive them from Carol Alexander.



Betty Sue Sowell, Protocol Chairman, and Ann Turnbow, President of the Garden Clubs of Mississippi visit SON Valley!

HELP WANTED DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

We are looking for a Development Director. This person will be responsible for the fundraising and public image of SON Valley. If you know someone who might qualify for this position, refer them to our web site for the full Job Description... www.sonvalley.net.

NEW ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

Joseph J. Little "Joe"

Activities Director

Master of Divinity in Pastoral Ministries

Joe Little grew up in Star, Mississippi and received a Bachelor of Arts from Mississippi College. Joe earned a Master of Divinity from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and has additional course work in mental health and marriage and family therapy.

Joe is a Bivocational minister and has served as pastor of Lula Baptist Church since 2001. Joe has served in various ministries over the past twenty years working with children, youth and adults. He and his wife Lora live in Clinton with their sons.



Address correction requested



Remember: Father's Day is June 15th!!

SUMMER PROJECTS

There's always a project to be done at SON Valley. Any group who is looking for some way to help can choose from:

1. **Touch-Up Painting.** It's a good time to freshen up some of the areas. We need to start a list (get Ann's list she made a few months back) and have it for groups.
2. **Walking Trail.** We need to lay out the Trail in three or four stages. The first one needs to be a short one that is the shortest loop—just a short walk. Later we will expand and make longer loops.
3. **WAC Portables.** We need ceiling work, other interior repair, painting, skirting around the buildings, walkway to each building, steps and landing for each building.
4. **Softball Field.** We need some box blade work done, bases installed and possibly some grass sown for the outfield. A backstop would be nice.
5. **Weeding and Landscaping.** We need some work done in our landscaped areas. New pine straw, weeds pulled, more shrubs planted, etc.

If your group is not looking for work, but would rather do some activity with the residents, here are some ideas:

1. **M-Braves.** This is a great way to get to know our residents. Take them to an M-Braves game. Of course, some of our staff would have to go with you, but it would surely be a fun trip for all. And our residents would love you for it.
2. **On-Campus Holiday.** The residents love a party. July 4th and Labor Day are both good days to come and do a cookout for the residents.
3. **Other Party.** Pick a Saturday or Sunday and come do something special. The Unity Ladies Ensemble came from First Baptist in Jackson recently. We can talk about it and work out any details. Our residents also love to go bowling.

Just call Joe Little at
601-859-2100, ext 230.



NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

SON Valley does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or age in admission, treatment or participation in its programs, services or activities, or in employment. For further information about this policy, contact:

Charles Shearer, 601-859-2100, ext. 227, or cbs@sonvalley.net