

FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings, chums and chumettes,

Can you believe that the end of the semester is already less than a month away? Hot crackers! That's bossanova. Bombtastic, even. We're losing a lot of good folks at the end of this school year, though, including yours, truly. Which is sad, but also quite happy. It's exciting to see people on their way, setting out on grand adventures and whatnot. To glory!

But in the meantime, enjoy this April issue of the Whetstone! It's one of the most packed issues we've had in a while. Wahoolazuma! Note that this will be the last print issue of the Whetstone this semester (and my last one ever), but keep checking the website for any new articles that trickle in before the end of the semester!

If you look on page 9, you'll see a great article about by Martha Turpin about Young Life. As some of you know, I am also a Young Life leader, and so (over there on the right) I wrote a brief bit about what the experience has been like for me.



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And now, I take my bow and step down as Editor-in-Chief of this piece of dead tree. Thank you all so much for your submissions and for helping make the Whetstone awesome! Your new editor will be a treat, by the way.

Sincerely Signed,

Daniel

I became a Young Life leader because, having just come out of that stage of life, I knew how much need there is for people to be friends and mentors in the lives of high schoolers. That period of life is one of the most shaping, and I wanted to be able to help shape godly kids who would make good choices and shine like lights among their peers.

My favorite thing to do with kids is Campaigners (we call it Man Night) with the high school guys I know closely. We act crazy and play a game called One Roll that always involves one kid (or a leader) doing something really silly, embarrassing or hilarious. Then we talk about the Bible, about Christianity and just about life in general and the struggles of being a man. It is a really great bonding time. Often, the conversations get very real and very close to home for certain kids who have admitted that they are agnostic or that they struggle with finding a purpose in life.

One of the most difficult things about being a leader is that you want to spend as much time as possible with your kids, but there never seems to be quite enough time to go around. I would go to the high school every day if I could.

Sometimes it is also challenging to remember that it is not me who is making a difference in these kids' lives, but God through me. It is tempting at times to try to take credit for it myself, because the kids see me as cool and they really look up to me, so I have to keep reminding myself that it is not me but God in me who is at work.

There are several verses I cling to as a leader. One of the most important to me is 1 Corinthians 13:1. "If I speak the languages of men and of angels but do not have love, I am a sounding gong or a clanging symbol" (HCSB). This verse really serves to remind me that loving these kids is the most important thing to do before preaching the gospel to them. If I try to preach to them without first loving them, I am just a gong or clanging symbol. It is when I love them and build up a trust that they open their hearts to the words of the gospel. -- Daniel Sellers

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."
Proverbs 27:17

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The Whetstone
Montreat College's Student Voice

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