

Local Church Updates...

Jonathan and Ryan McClure Produce Prize-Winning Documentaries

Saturday night, June 2, both Jonathan and Ryan McClure were recognized as first-prize winners in Indiana's annual History Day competition.

Ryan received a cash prize in addition to his medal and certificate. His documentary was on robots and their future impact. It had an interview with his uncle, Dr. William Peine, a graduate of the Harvard School of Applied Science, and included video of laproscopic heart bypass surgery.

Jonathan, as the middle school winner, went on to Washington D.C. for the



Above, Cathy, Ryan, Malcolm and Jonathan McClure; right, Jonathan with Aletra and Virtue Hampton, who were interviewed in his documentary on the frontiers of jazz in Indiana

national competition June 11-14 where he placed 11th out of all entrants in the Junior Division "Individual Documentaries" from all 50 states. The national competition was televised on the History Channel and cybercast.

Jonathan's documentary subject was the frontiers of jazz in Indiana. It included interviews with several prominent jazz musicians. The special feature was an interview with Aletra and Virtue Hampton. They are in their 80s and have lived the frontier of jazz. Their stories of the struggles of a black family of 11 children traveling the big-name theater circuit throughout the East Coast were totally captivating.

These ladies have performed in such places as Carnegie Hall, the Savoy and jazz clubs in almost every major city. They were also recognized by the historians at Indiana's History Day ceremony.

Jonathan, Ryan and their parents, Malcolm and Cathy McClure, attend the Indianapolis, Indiana, congregation.

Tom Peine



Jeremiah Johnson

Jeremiah Johnson Inducted Into Honor Society

Jeremiah S. Johnson, 13, son of Steven and Christine Johnson of the Beloit, Wisconsin, congregation, was inducted into the Hartman-Wileman Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society May 17.

Jeremiah, an eighth grader at Phoenix Middle School of Delavan, Wisconsin, met the eligibility requirements of earning a cumulative 3.5 grade point average or higher for three consecutive quarters. Those who meet this scholastic requirement are then put to a faculty vote to determine if they meet the other NJHS qualifications of leadership, citizenship, character and service. Final determination of membership is made with the approval of the NJHS Faculty Council.

Jeremiah, one of nine new eighth grade inductees, was presented with a certificate and welcomed into the Society by its chairman, advisers and faculty at a ceremony held at the school, followed by a reception.

Steven Johnson

Susan Richey Wins Presidential Award

Susan Richey, 11, graduated from fifth grade with several awards, including the President's Award for Educational Excellence and a merit award for "All As, All Year, All Subjects."

Susan and her mother, Linda Richey, were congratulated on doing exceptionally well for being a single-parent family by the principal and staff

of Treadway Elementary School in Leesburg, Florida. They attend the Orlando, Florida, congregation of the United Church of God. She is the granddaughter of Dale and Pearl

with the dog, and I don't mind admitting that we went through several large bowls of snacks while we waited for our dinner. We could hear strange sounds coming from the

kitchen where the volunteer cooks were hard at work. It was nerve-racking. Then, finally, we were called in.

Soon after we were seated, our first courses were served. One teen received a bowl of rice,

which she stared at blankly for a few moments. Another received carrots and a bun, two things with little obvious connection. I was further confused, although somewhat pleased, when I received a piece of pie and some ice cream.

But then everyone noticed that there were no utensils. "Where are my utensils?" we asked in unison. We were directed to little stacks of toothpicks located along the middle of the table.

Believe it or not, ice cream can be eaten quite well with a toothpick, but pity the poor fellow who got his corn first! He had to put it into a glass to try to drink it. He didn't have the sticky interior of a perogie to scoop them up like I did when my peas arrived.

But despite the increasing strangeness of our meals, we were slowly starting to understand the mystery. Reviewing our original sheets, we saw that we were getting exactly what we had ordered and in exactly the order we had ordered it. Here are some examples: "Oh Well" was water; "Rake" was a fork; "Cactus Country" was dessert; "Ear Drops" was corn; "Scaredy Cat" was chicken; "Ben's Dish" was rice; "Tiny Pillows" were perogies; "Guillotine" was a knife; and the locusts turned out to



Susan Richey receives awards

Richey, formerly of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dale Richey

Toronto Teens Attend a Mystery Dinner

It came in the mail, just as any flyer, bill or ransom note might have, and it came without warning—a gray-blue card with a question mark on the outside. It was the calling card of Pat and Jo-Anne Read, inviting me to a "Mystery Dinner" at the home of our pastor and his wife, Anthony and Linda Wasilkoff.

At church the next week, I discovered that the rest of the teens had received invitations too, but no one knew anything about the Mystery Dinner. "Is it a murder mystery game?" one naive teen asked. "Is the food the mystery?" another ventured. "Are you going to feed us biblical food, like locusts?" I jokingly asked. The Reads would reveal nothing although Mr. Read did smile deviously at my proposal. We waited out those next few weeks in excitement, but sometimes we had puzzled looks on our faces.

Then the day was finally upon us. We arrived at the Wasilkoffs' house and were greeted by a row of waiters in uniform who had assumed French names for the occasion. Closer inspection revealed them to be Ryan Rahel, Mr. Read, Judy Read and Mr. Wasilkoff. They led us to the table where we were given menus with about 20 dishes. We were told to take a pencil and list them in the course order we would like.

These dishes had odd names. And the final item was "locusts." Nevertheless we complied and filled out our dinner orders.

Next they told us to leave the table and wait in the den, where we were entertained by a documentary on the wonders of God's creation and a small, frisky dog. We played



These mysterious servers made the Toronto Mystery Dinner a success

be chocolate turtles. What a relief that was! Obviously, that's a lot of food, and only a few of the teens managed to eat all their food. The process was also a little unfair to some. Ezra Martin, for example, got all his utensils and no food for his last course.

Everyone agreed that the whole evening was a lot of fun.

Rosaleen Ford