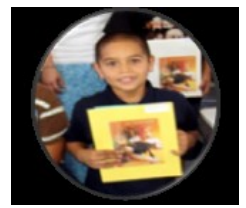




California Released Time (CaRT) Christian Education Newsletter



Bible Classes for Public School Students

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100th Anniversary of Released Time Christian Education *Celebrating the Past – Looking to the Future*



The event, sponsored by School Ministries, Inc. located in Columbia, SC. featured nationally known Christian speakers, educators, and attorneys. The keynote speaker, Jim Daly, President of Focus on the Family shared about his childhood. He said that the short time he was able to attend Released Time as a child in Long Beach, CA was a highlight of his difficult childhood.



Richard Blackaby, President of Blackaby Ministries Int'l. spoke about spiritual leadership, while experiencing God, as we serve school children. Matthew Sharpe, Religious Liberty Attorney from Alliance Defending Freedom, discussed ways to safeguard the future of Released Time so we will be "Teflon Coated" and do everything properly.



Thirteen Released Time leaders from Southern California were able to attend the 100th Anniversary Conference and experience staying at The Billy Graham Training Center at the Cove - in Asheville, NC. According to Roger Kenney it is a 10 star



resort! All enjoyed the many gifted and dictated speakers... plus meeting RTCE people from 13 states.



Six CaRT Programs were represented. From the left: Terry Roberts, (in back of Terry) Joan Wasson, Ginni Sudduth Katrina Boyd, Chantell Tibbetts. Gail Blake Smith, Roger Kenny, Wendy Olson, Kristine MacKenzie, Candy Kenney, Genny Madison and (in the front) John and Sally Atkinson. (John had a broken foot but he came!)

California (CaRT)
Released Time Christian
Education
Is a religious nonprofit
organization (501c3)

The CaRT web site has been updated and pages added. Please take a look!
www.CAreleasedtime.org

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High School Credit for Released Time

High school students can get elective academic credit for attending Released Time Programs in 2 states. In 2006 School Ministries accomplished a major legislative landmark with South Carolina's Released Time Credit Law. In 2014, School Ministries' Jenni Miller worked with the Ohio Legislature to enact the academic credit bill for their Released Time students.

Currently other states are also considering this option. California is one of them. A grassroots task force has been formed with Gail Blake Smith and John Atkinson taking the lead. Calvary Chapel Chino Hills' member and California State Senator, Mike Morrell (R-Rancho Cucamonga) has already committed to being a sponsor for the bill. The group will proceed with guidance from Ken Brevik, Executive director of School Ministries, Inc. The task force is looking for California democratic senators to be a part of this bipartisan work! Please contact the editor at californiareleasedtime@aol.com with your suggestions. Please keep this opportunity in prayer!

CaRT State Conference Report

The CaRT Board combined the Annual State Conference with the Celebration of 100 Years of Released Time Christian Education. We enjoyed the hospitality of Yorba Linda Friends Church as we celebrated with an American theme.



CaRT was honored to have the worship led by Mary Rice Hopkins and Darcie Maze. Even more so because Mary has recently recovered from a long and life threatening illness.

Wendy Olson's RTCE students acted in a skit on the 'Armor of God'

and also shared their testimony. There were amazing testimonies by adults and children. Keynote speaker, Eric Buehrer, a former school teacher is founder and president of Gateways to Better Education. (www.gtbe.org.) He encouraged and inspired as he told us about the CA State Standards which requires public schools to teach key points about various religions including Christianity specific to grade level. He is a resource for parents, teachers, and administrators on matters of religion in public schools.

CaRT Membership 2014-15

The CaRT Executive Board wants to make California Released Time (CaRT) Christian Education an association that encourages Released Time directors and their boards and staff by networking with other Released Time Christian Education Programs. CaRT helps raise awareness of what Released Time Christian Education has to offer to public schools and through them, to our communities. Your membership also helps maintain the CaRT website with easy access to information and many teaching ideas. The membership application is on the website and the \$25 dues can be paid through PayPal or you may use a credit card. Please tell other supporters about the web page too. www.careleasedtime.org

The ballot measure to revise our Mission Statement passed unanimously. The wording is now

The Mission of the California Released Time (CaRT) Christian Education Association is to help Christians start Released Time Ministries and to serve the leadership of CaRT programs by providing opportunities for prayer, networking, training, fundraising and raising statewide awareness of Released Time Christian Education for the benefit of California's public school children.

Commemorating 100 years of Released Time Christian Education

100th Anniversary books are available for \$7.00 which also pays for postage. They are spiral bound books with information on William Wirt, the dedicated educator who believed that a child's education should include a spiritual component. He made school time available for students to be released for religious education, a task he assigned to the pastors in town.

The booklet has 12 pages and finishes with a list of RTCE programs across America. Request books from CaRT membership services – Genny Madison at genny4rtce@msn.com.

In Sympathy

Our sympathy goes to Wendy Olson on the passing of her father James Purvis on July 30 after a long illness. His funeral will be at Riverside Memorial Cemetery on August 21. Cards may be sent to her at 17081 Rancho Lane, Yorba Linda, CA 92886.