



# Back At The Ranch...



Winter 2006

Founded by the Maryland Sheriffs' Association



## Dedication Ceremony at the Maryland Sheriffs' Youth Ranch

On October 24th, the Maryland Sheriffs' Youth Ranch dedicated its newest residence, the "George P. Kimmel Memorial Cottage". Mr. Kimmel had a long history of working with children in need. He founded the Longwood School for Boys in 1946. His family reports that Mr. Kimmel, "Never met a boy he did not like and would always help any he found in need." The new residence, that proudly bears his name, will not only allow the Ranch to better serve our existing children, but will also allow us to serve more children in need.

The financial support from the Kimmel family, as well as from businesses, churches, clubs, and individuals, speaks volumes about the commitment that the people of this community have for supporting children in need. This new building is only the most recent example of this ongoing commitment. All of the residents of the Ranch have been blessed by this community's willingness to reach out and positively affect a child's life.

The dedication ceremony was attended by representatives from the Department of Social Services, local businesses, MSYR Board of Directors, the Kimmel family, local media, MSYR staff and residents.

As Executive Director, I want to make sure that I thank a few people directly. Without their help we would not have this fine new residence in place to serve our boys. I want to start by thanking those within the Ranch family that made this possible. I want to thank former Executive Director, Mr. Richard K. Stone, for his guidance, leadership and vision on this project; I want to thank the Board of Directors, led by President Jayne Bongard, for their support and guidance, and Mr. Robert Turner for his help in making sure that this cottage feels like home for those that will grow here.

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Providing Guidance and Support to the Youth of Maryland since 1974

## Richard Kimmel's speech from the Grand Opening & Dedication Ceremony.



*Richard Kimmel,  
son of George P. Kimmel*

Dignitaries, Board Members, friends, staff, family members of George P. Kimmel, and especially the boys of the MSYR, you are the ones that this is all about! Never forget we function for you. I am so sorry my dad, George P. Kimmel, passed away before this facility was founded. He would have been in this operation with both feet, hands, wallet and pen.

George P. Kimmel was born in Leavenworth, Kansas to immigrant parents in 1884. Leavenworth, Kansas is the gateway to the west, the Santa Fe Trail and home of the federal penitentiary and Fort Leavenworth. It was a tough town. Our father told of gunfights in the street and brawls from the saloons, just as we see in the movies. As a boy attending school, my father got a job in a law office sweeping floors and cleaning spittoons. A senior partner took a liking to him and encouraged him to "Read Law", which played a major roll in his later life. He dropped out of school and headed for California at about the age of 20. He knocked around on the West coast for a couple years and then headed for the DC area where he made his home for the rest of his life. He got a job with the government and enrolled in Georgetown Law School. At that time, "Reading Law" qualified for law school although he did not have an undergraduate degree. He attended night school and graduated with a law degree in 1910. He had a thriving patent law practice and after a couple unsuccessful, fruitless marriages, he met my mom. He had three children, George Jr., Gayle and yours truly. Along with the joy of my birth on September 29th, came the devastation of the stock market crash and the beginning of the great depression. My dad was wiped out financially, but with hard work, long hours, and a lot of travel, he soon got back on the road to success. Then in 1934, while on a business trip to Europe, an event that influenced the rest of his life occurred. He lost his first born son while at boarding school. Daddy never got over that loss and vowed to start a school that would not neglect the needs of children, as he felt little George had been neglected. In 1946, right after World War II, he founded, financed, and built the Longwood School for Boys, on his estate in Brookville. The school operated for several years until the facility was condemned for public use by the Office of Civilian Defense so it could be used for the National Training Center during the Korean War. The Federal Government abandoned the facility and after being idle for several years, it became the property of Montgomery County. The gymnasium building is now being used as the Longwood Recreation Center. My father's love for children continued thru strong support of clubs with a favorite being

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Visit with us on the web: [www.msyrg.org](http://www.msyrg.org)

# Ranch News



## Christmas is Coming!

There is excitement in the air as we turn our thoughts towards Christmas. It is our desire to make Christmas something very special for our boys.

You can be a part of making that happen. One way is by making a donation towards the boys'

Christmas by designating "Christmas" on your check or the enclosed donation card. Another way is by adopting one or more of our boys and their wish list for Christmas. If you are interested in adopting a boy, please call Linda Clark at 301-874-4701 ext. 105.

Poinsettias can also be purchased in memory, or in honor, of a loved one for a donation of \$15.00. Please designate "poinsettia" on your check or donation card, along with the name of the person you are remembering or honoring. We will include a list in our next newsletter of each person that received a poinsettia in their memory or in their honor. These poinsettias will be used to decorate the Ranch to create a festive atmosphere for the boys!



*Everyone at the Maryland Sheriffs' Youth Ranch would like to wish all of our friends and supporters a very happy and blessed holiday season!*

If you are receiving a duplicate mailing, please let us know by calling Linda Clark at 301-874-4701, ext. 105, or send an email to [lclark@msyr.org](mailto:lclark@msyr.org).



If you would like to make a donation on-line, please visit:  
[www.donationdepot.com](http://www.donationdepot.com)



## Director's Message

The State calls the Maryland Sheriffs' Youth Ranch a 'Large Group Home'; the boys that live here simply call it home. We are fast approaching the holiday season and like in homes all over the country, our boys are creating their wish lists for Christmas. We are again reaching out to the community asking individuals or groups to consider sponsoring one or more of our residents for Christmas. Each boy at the Ranch has a wish list that does not exceed \$200. This year, our kids have decided to give back to the community that has given them so much. They will each donate \$25 of their \$200 to a charity. Individuals wishing to sponsor a resident will be furnished with the wish list to guide their purchases. The gifts are handed out during our annual Christmas party.



Mark Grover  
Executive Director

The residents have also been busy on another front. Mr. Casford 'Rich' Richardson and several residents at the Ranch have started an Entrepreneurial Club. The club will provide the residents of the Ranch an opportunity to become exposed to the world of business. The club will conduct training classes in finance and investments as well as entrepreneurial projects. Structural Systems, Inc. has generously donated supplies to make 50 birdhouses. The boys in the club will be selling these birdhouses to help with start up costs of the club. Information on how to buy one of these birdhouses can be found at either [www.msyr.org](http://www.msyr.org) or by calling (301) 874-4701 ext. 107.

Finally, as mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, we have recently dedicated our newest cottage. The "George P. Kimmel Memorial Cottage" will allow us to grow in our ability to serve our residents. The design of the new cottage allows us to better target our behavioral intervention systems to meet the needs of a specific group of boys. With room for 16 boys, it will also allow us to eventually serve more children. We could not be happier with the new building. I want to thank all of those that made it possible. Your support will help boys in need for years to come.

**Mark Grover, LGSW**  
Executive Director

### Donations received in Honor/Memory of:

James Baker  
Inez & Scott Berke  
Gorden Blair  
Charles Garrett Cooley, Jr.  
Mary V. Daisey  
Everyone  
Marie D. Jeffers  
Charles L. Keeney  
Paul V. King  
Clarence O. Kyte, Sr.  
Deputy Sheriff S. David Marsteller

Bill Mellars  
Charles B. Morley  
Col. Joseph F. O'Brien  
Josephine Porter  
Norma Puckett  
Lt. Robert Seidell



[www.msyr.org](http://www.msyr.org)

## Our Mission

*The mission of the Maryland Sheriffs' Youth Ranch is to provide disadvantaged and "at risk" youth with guidance and support in a healthy, safe and supportive residential setting, accompanied by caring staff and counselors, to assist them in becoming productive members of society.*

### Board of Directors

*Chairman*  
Charles Fowler

*President*  
Jayne Bongard

*First Vice President*  
John T. Cornelius

*Second Vice President*  
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Theodore Luck  
Robin L. McConaughey  
R. Scott Mergenthaler  
Frederick K. Price  
J. Hunter Pugh, Jr.  
Virginia Shaw  
Dean Stickell

*Executive Director*  
Mark Grover

*Legal Counsel*  
Bruce Dean, Esq.

[www.msyр.org](http://www.msyр.org)

(Kimmel Speech - Continued from page 1)

Children's Hospital. Children's Hospital, under certain circumstances, would have been the beneficiary of his entire estate under his will. I had been coming to the Ranch since hearing about it from my business partner, John Hill, an early supporter and I believe, board member. Over the years, on drives thru the ranch, I noticed the Casey cottage, named after a good friend of my dad's, and the Viers' dorm, named after a good friend of mine. A. B. Viers and I started our businesses within a few years of each other. We did projects together, were active Chamber of Commerce members in Rockville, and were the socialites of Montgomery County. So when I saw the buildings here dedicated to those two, I thought, "This is for Daddy". I kept in touch with the Ranch and when I heard of the plans for the new dorm, I came up and worked out the details with Dick Stone. What a great choice to remember my father and best friend with.

My dad and I didn't see eye to eye on my career, he wanted me to become an attorney and practice law with him, something I dreaded the thought of having to do. But he supported everything I did and was my biggest booster. When I first started my business, Daddy came to the office and dropped a card on my desk. He said he had come across this pit of prose and had adopted it as his creed:

I do not wish to be a common man. It is my right to be uncommon if I can. I seek opportunity - not security. I do not wish to be a kept citizen, humbled, dulled, by having the state look after me. I want to take the calculated risk; to dream and to build; to fail or succeed. I refuse to barter incentive for a dole. I prefer the challenge of life to the guaranteed existence; the thrill of fulfillment to the calm of utopia. I will not trade freedom for beneficence, nor my dignity for a handout. I will never cower before any master nor bend to any threat. It is my heritage to stand erect, proud, and unafraid; to think and act for myself and say. . .this I have done.

Speech from Richard Kimmel

# Ranch News

## Thank You



Kohl's Department sent two groups of employees (A-team, Associates in Action) out to the Ranch. The first group, Kristen S., Malinda, Ashley & Kristen P. had a volleyball day with the boys. The second group, Rhonda, Linda, Paula and William played golf with the boys. We want to thank Kohl's for their involvement with our boys!

The Ranch would also like to thank Engineering Systems Solutions, Inc. (ESS) for contributing 35 tickets and meal vouchers for Six Flags amusement park in Largo, MD to the boys at the Ranch. The boys enjoyed the park tremendously! ESS also blessed our boys with new school supplies!



Greg Jackson, Ila Stitely, Jay Nathan, Mark Grover



As the Executive Director of the Maryland Sheriffs' Youth Ranch, I am often asked to speak to groups around the state about the Ranch. Recently I had the honor of speaking to two different groups. The first was the Montgomery County 4H Sheep and Swine Club. This group of young people saw fit to designate the Ranch as one of its signature charities. On August 18th, they donated \$1,000 to MSYR. On October 7th, I was invited to speak to the District I sisters of Alpha Delta Kappa. The sisters of Alpha Delta Kappa have a long history of supporting the Ranch. I want to thank these groups for their interest and support of the boys of the Maryland Sheriffs' Youth Ranch.

If you would like for me to come and speak with your organization, please contact me at 301-874-4701 X107, or email me at [mgrover@msyr.org](mailto:mgrover@msyr.org)

Mark Grover, LGSW  
Executive Director

# Ranch News



## Halloween at the Ranch. . .

We would like to thank Jeri at Jumbo's Pumpkin Patch for having our boys out to their farm and for giving each boy a free pumpkin. The boys loved the hay ride out to the pumpkin patch and enjoyed petting the farm animals!! The boys then had a fun filled afternoon carving jack-o-lanterns and making scarecrows!



Prizes were awarded for the following:  
 Best Overall Pumpkin: Greg  
 Most Creative Pumpkin: Robby  
 Spookiest Pumpkin: Jamal  
 Best Overall Scarecrow: Dominic  
 Most Creative Scarecrow: Austin  
 Spookiest Scarecrow: Chris

We finished up with each boy receiving a bag of candy! Thank you to Goodwill Industries in Frederick for donating clothing for our scarecrows!!

## Happy Birthday to the following residents. . .

November Birthdays	December Birthdays	January Birthdays
Calvin - 11th	Greg - 8th	Tim - 14th
Jamal - 15th	Robbie - 8th	Javan - 25th
Michael - 19th	Andrew - 22nd	Jesse - 25th

## Honor Roll. . .

Congratulations to Greg, Keith, Austin, Jerron & Justin for making the honor roll for the first term.

*Congratulations to Ranch employee, Sergeant First Class Casford Richardson on his retirement from the U. S. Army!!*

*To make a donation or to offer your gift of time and talent, please call the Ranch office at 301-874-4701. Thank you!*

Person needed to provide administrative support. Must have excellent phone, computer, filing and organizational skills and be able to multi-task. 20 hours per week.

Please send resume to Linda Clark at lclark@msyr.org or fax to 301-874-4702

(Dedication Ceremony - Continued from page 1)

This cottage would not have been possible without the help of a supportive community. A few of the leaders in this effort were Structural Systems, Inc., The Maryland Sheriffs' Association, Ms. Gabrielle Brown Buck/Mount Ararat Foundation, the Aronson Foundation, Inc; FaithPoint United Methodist Church, and of course, Mr. Richard Kimmel and the entire Kimmel Family .

I want to give thanks for those that helped in the construction of this building: Mr. Randy Robucci and Mr. Steve Baker of Bruchey Builders, Mr. Daniel Lavelle of Lavelle & Associates and Mr. Bruce Mahlandt of CMW, Inc.

Finally, I want to thank the boys of the Ranch for inspiring us all to do our best work.

Sincerely,  
 Mark Grover, LGSW  
 Executive Director



## Golf Tournaments

A big thank you goes out to Faithpoint United Methodist

Church who raised \$8,261.00 at their annual golf tournament and to Structural Systems who raised \$22,046.17 at their annual golf tournament to benefit the Maryland Sheriffs' Youth Ranch.



Left to right: Leah Baker, Structural Systems, Mark Grover, MSYR & Ellen Parker, Structural Systems

*"He who wishes to secure the good of others has already secured his own."  
 -- Confucius*

**Maryland Sheriffs' Youth Ranch**  
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