

**John Granger, Th.D.**  
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**The Coffee Baptist Vision**  
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**June 11, 2015**

**Dr. Danny Wiggins**  
 Moderator  
**Rev. John Gunter**  
 Hispanic Missionary  
**Steve Tipton**  
 Vineyard Manager

**A Visit With Dr. John....**

We dedicated Snead Lodge to the Lord the last Sunday in May. It was a wonderful occasion, well attended, on a beautiful day.

It was a momentous occasion, filled with celebration and delight. Lots of people contributed money, prayers, and effort into making this building a reality. Many of them were present, rejoicing over this great accomplishment in the Lord's work.

None of these accomplishments could've been made without God's grace and his gifts to us. We sought to give God glory for all His blessings!

We also tried to recognize people who helped the building become a reality. The entire back of the program was filled with the names of people, churches, and companies who helped, in some way, to build and equip this lodge. Numerous people helped in other ways whose names were not there and not mentioned. Steve tried to give recognition to all, but he noted to me that it would have taken all day to point out everybody who helped.

Bro. Kurt Pierce has been Vineyard Committee Chair for the past couple of years. He has done a lot to get the building finished, even building the 22 full-size/twin size bunk beds.

Larry Searcy, Ron McMonagle, and the wonderful friends from Campers On Mission, have worked on the building like they were trying to finish their own house. They really put a lot into it.

Some churches from out of town, and from out-of-state, came to work on the building for a week at the time. Often they brought money to purchase material or things that would be needed in the building.

Many of Bill Snead's family were there, proud that the building was named after Mr. Bill Snead. His name reminds us that he, Mr. Horace Smith, and many others have been faithful in the work, enabling us to, in a sense, "stand on their shoulders," for this greater reach.

It was noted that there have been a couple of crucial points in this building process. Our association never has had the kind of money to simply contract such a building as this. The first key happening involved several things.

The first was that designated gifts and offerings from the churches made it appear that we would be able to build the building if we did it in stages. The foundation happened because Mr. Floyd Rivers was able to do the groundwork and Bro. Cliff Quincy and the late Bro. B.P.

Mccollough did the preliminary electrical and plumbing and poured the slab.

Three years ago, when Dr. Sonny Moore was chair of the stewardship committee, they brought the recommendation to call for a special offering and then borrow the rest of the money needed to complete the lodge. Our churches gave about \$40,000 and we made a loan with Trinity Bank for the rest. We still used volunteers, but this made the money readily available.

Steve has been contractor and supplier of materials needed for all these projects. He has scheduled mission teams to work and has done much work there himself. We owe a great debt of gratitude to Steve because the work he has shouldered there has been a heavy load. This work also was in addition to the task of caring for 4000+ lodgers last year and similar numbers in the years before. The lodge would not be there without Steve!!

Steve would not have been able to do this work had it not been for volunteers like Dallas and Linda Farris. They volunteered full-time many months so Steve could oversee the building without having to break to accommodate guests. Other people volunteered and helped in similar fashion.

For the past several months Ken and Levita have proved invaluable. They too, have a lightened the load for Steve, as have the rest of the staff at the Vineyard.

Rick Barnhart, State Missionary with Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions, was present to celebrate and give congratulations. Brother Rick noted his astonishment at what the Lord is doing through our work together in Coffee Association.

We reminded ourselves that the building is not the final goal. It is a means whereby we may be able to reach and disciple more people for Christ. The Vineyard is already being used in this way. Snead Lodge will open up more possibilities.

Melonee Blair and the ladies who helped her from the WMU across the county did a super job with refreshments and decorations. Cake, punch, and service with a smile made this festive occasion even better.

As soon as we cleared out another group began to use the building. A group is there this week. It will be well used.

**S/E Alabama Youth Camp**  
**July 19 - 22**

**Grades 7—12**  
**Registration forms at**  
**www.vineyardretreat.org**

**Volunteers**  
**for Youth Camp**  
**Call: Christian Helvin**  
**334-400-2429**

**This camp involves our entire district and will be a good way to extend your ministry or influence**

**Make plans to join us!**

**To God Be The Glory**



Snead Lodge at The Vineyard Christian Retreat Center



Some of the guests at Snead Lodge Dedication, May 31.

**Calendar of Events**

**June**

- 20-27 - SW AL Mission Trip
- 22-25 - SE AL Boy's Camp, 4 - 6 Grade
- 25-27 - SE AL Lad & Dad or Mom Camp, 1- 6 Gr.
- 27 - Father's Day
- 28 - Citizenship and Religious Liberty Sunday
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**July**

- 02 - Vineyard Work Day - 8:00 a.m.
- 04 - Independence Day
- 06-08 - Children's Summer Camp
- 14 - Executive Committee Meeting—7:00 p.m.
- 23 - Ministers' Meeting—10:00 a.m..
- 19 - 22 - Youth Camp
- 26 - Read The *Alabama Baptist* Sunday
- 28 - Senior Adult Lunch - First Baptist Enterprise
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**Workers needed at FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**Please pray about volunteering your talents to teach 1 st. through 3rd. Grades. Call: John Gunter at 334-791-0842 for more information**  
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**HELP WANTED**

**Part-time Secretary at Macedonia.**  
**Hours: 8 a.m. until 12 noon**  
**Email resume to**  
**rwalker1@centurytel.net**

Please be in prayer for Bro. Danny Wiggins and the Mission Team. We have 65 people leaving June 25th for the South West AL Mobile area to stay until June 27. Pray for A time of evangelism, fellowship among the team and also a time of renewal for those who are serving and witnessing in the name of our Lord. Ask the Lord to touch hearts that souls will be saved!

**Children's Camp at The Vineyard**  
 Grades 1-6  
**July 6—8**

Registration forms can be downloaded at  
[www.vineyardretreat.org](http://www.vineyardretreat.org).

**Register today!**