



# Independent UPDATE

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A newsletter for Cadet counselors in independent clubs across North America



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## Surrender All

I AM LOOKING AT MY CALENDAR of things to do in the remainder of the month, and I notice something is missing.

I must confess that running a business with my wife, LaVonne, things get hectic. There have been times when we had to make big decisions, times of crisis and pain, times of confidence, and times of change and uncertainty. We have tried to do the best we can and make wise decisions, but we've been reminded that we may have forgotten something — surrendering our will to God's will. God is the controller of this business, He is our boss. Sometimes we fail to recognize this.

Perhaps it is human nature to respond to challenges and opportunities by deciding what makes the most sense, what hurts us the least, or what gives us the greatest benefit. Surrender, on the other hand, doesn't always make sense, can cause us pain, and often doesn't feel like a benefit.

Instead, it requires that we push the "pause" button on our own solutions and best thinking and prayerfully wait on God to invite

us into where He wants us to be. It requires us to rely on the Holy Spirit and sometimes, endure pain and hardship so that God's plan can be fully realized.

For me, surrendering to God has been a trust-awakening experience that has opened my eyes to His greatness and freed me from the limitations of my own understanding. It has given me deep contentment and joy-filled hope in places that humanly don't merit it.

Like most of you, I have big things on my calendar all the time: Cadet meetings, special Cadet events and important decisions, big challenges, and even opportunities. Each day, I can choose to surrender these matters to God or simply go after all the other things written on my calendar. Sometimes, I think it would be best if I wrote out the word "Surrender" after the date, and then what I need to do, so it may become a habit.

*"All to Jesus I surrender, all  
to Him I freely give."*

I have changed my calendar to begin with "Surrender." Have you?

—BB

## Congress

CONGRESS WILL TAKE PLACE, Lord willing, on January 12-14, 2012, at Heritage CRC in Byron Center, Michigan. Please pray that the Lord will guide all the congressmen so that His will is



done in the decisions that are made for the Cadet Corps. Pray also for safe travel for those who attend.

—BB

Bert has it pretty good at Congress. He gets to sit next to the ladies and drink coffee. He is sitting near Mary Broene, Cadet secretary.

## Data bits:

Cadet Sunday: January 29, 2012  
Theme: Prepare Yourself  
Verse: 2 Timothy 2:15



You can download this theme logo at our Web site.

## Central Regional Conference

This conference — hosted by Wood-N-Stream Council in Fremont, Michigan on November 5 — was an awesome informational experience.

Rev. Les VanDyke opened the session with some humor... You know you are a Cadet counselor when you go out on a family camping trip and you have your mess kit. You know you're a Cadet counselor when you keep a roll of toilet paper in your pickup truck. Or when your wife finds her favorite fry pan, burnt black on the bottom and with some dried egg still stuck to it. Or when your favorite cologne is Deep Woods Off. I could go on, but space won't allow me.

Rev. VanDyke spoke to us on the theme, Prepare Yourself, based on 2 Timothy 2:15.

Work so that God can approve you. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. In today's worldly situations, boys need God-fearing, fatherly figures to model godly living. Be strong, do your best and be faithful. In times past, when a farmer plowed a field, he would focus on an object on the horizon and aim for that object and keep focus on that image to create straight lines. Likewise, we need to aim and stay on course serving our Lord and Savior.

Then we had 17 educational workshop sessions to choose from. The only problem was that we could only participate in two during the morning and two in the afternoon. Oh, how time flew by.

The various Cadet regions try to hold one-day conferences each year. I recommend that you attend one of the regional conferences or the international convention if you have a chance. I am in touch with the regional training coordinators and will keep you informed as to when a conference will be in your area. You can also check on the Cadet Corps' Web site under Regional Events.



Club Consultant Bert Bakhuyzen (left) has a question for the workshop leader as John Kaashoek looks on.

## Counselors' Convention

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE CONVENTION on July 12-14, 2012. This will take place at Americana Conference Resort and Spa, in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Niagara Council is proud to be hosting Cadet Counselors' Convention 2012! We invite you to experience God's power as we share fellowship together and witness the power of His creation. Niagara Falls is an exciting family vacation destination with plenty to offer for all ages. We've been hard at work lining up educational and inspirational speakers and workshops. Come to Niagara! There's something for everybody.

*I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power.*

—Ephesians 3:7

For more information and early-bird registration, see: [convention2012.com](http://convention2012.com). Early registration saves you money!

—BB



Above: The Americana's waterpark guarantees your family will have a great time at the convention!