



# ROAM *Chronicles*

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April 2016

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## Kile's Korner

I'm sitting in my trailer on this Wednesday evening after church and thinking over some of what the pastor shared with us tonight. This is the week prior to Passover and our Lord was anticipating betrayal and crucifixion. Wow, he loved us that much that he stretched out his arms and died on a cross. That is love!

We will be here rejoicing on Easter, but we are planning on leaving our winter assignment and returning to our respective homes shortly. One of our friends put on Facebook a note that I would like to share with you. She said, "None of us knows for sure what's ahead. Be sure to seize the moment and enjoy life with those you love." That is exactly what Ruth and I are doing. We are spending our winter with some of the most precious people this side of heaven and they call themselves ROAMers. Thank you for making this and every time we go on an assignment a little piece of HEAVEN. God is good!

Our friend sent out a note that says, "You know all those things you've always wanted to do? You should go do them." Ruth's response back to her was, "Doing that!" Yes, we are doing exactly what we feel God wants us to do. We are so blessed when we see lives changed on these campgrounds or churches where we are working. I think I can speak for all of us that THIS IS OUR PAYCHECK.

Have fun working for Jesus, and be safe.

Ed

## New Beginnings/MASH Unit

Mary Weatherford

It is common knowledge that as you look back on your life, the older you are the faster it seems to have passed. For me, it has turned into seeing it as phases that we've been through. After childhood, education, raising our own children, and caring for grandchildren and our parents (often simultaneously), there comes a time to look back, assess where we are and make a plan for retirement. After all those years of busyness how does one know what you want to do?



Being a Christian gives us a sense of peace about our eternal life, but there isn't a place in the Bible that describes retirement. Reality check: there is always work to be done and there is always a need, somewhere, that is suited to your work and life experiences. God has prepared us for this. We can use our gifts, abilities, and positive attitude to help churches, camps, and people in need.



Ditches have been dug, sewer lines installed, footings dug, and what seemed like miles of rebar laid and tied. And none of all that work shows! Finally we were to the point of having concrete poured and putting up beams and raising walls. Weeks of work and the church can now see some results.

These are some pictures of work done by non-professional volunteers whose average age is 73 and with an incredible work ethic!



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## ROAM is Like a Trail Mix

by Alice Bough and Ruth Kile

A trail mix is made up of different dried fruits, grains, nuts, pretzels and chocolate. Together these differences blend to make an ideal snack.

ROAMers are a group of people living in an RV, working to make a difference for Camps and Churches. We work in one place for a short time to accomplish what has been laid out for us to do.

We are different in that we come from many places like: Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois, Virginia, Michigan, Texas, Ohio, Main, and Missouri.

We are different in that we come with different skills like: factory worker, mechanic, teacher, waitress, auto salesman, foster care home for adults, office work, accountant, carpenter, housekeeper, semi driver, chemist, administrative assistant, tool maker, school bus driver, loan officer, business owner, government officer township treasurer, telephone communications, CIA research officer, minister, local church worker, computer operator, short order cook, secretary, electrician, builder, writer, sales, newspaper lay out, aircraft mechanic, plumber, nurse, vice president of a company, manager, case worker, human services, farmer, child care, project manager, welder, real estate sales, floral designer, and the list could go on.



We are different in that we live in various sizes and styles of RVs: travel trailers, 5th wheels and motorhomes.

A trail mix gives strength and energy. A group of ROAMers give their strength and energy to make a difference in the buildings and grounds of LPC3.

Brother helping brother, friend helping friend. That's what ROAM is all about. Ralph Hilborn is a retired tool and die maker. Ralph observed his friend and fellow ROAMer, George Arndt, stripping copper wires for recycling. George's fingers were losing feeling because of hours of dedicated work. Ralph felt that there must be a better way to strip that wire. He asked God to give him a solution. Ralph says that for a solid week, he would wake up at 3:00 a.m. and pray. God gave him ideas for a machine, and he "built it in his head." He went to work in his own little machine shop and the concept came to life. He says he used as much scrap material as possible in honor of George, the "Scrapper."



When he presented the finished product to George, his friend cried for joy. George was touched that Ralph cared enough to actually build this amazing machine.

In the few months that George has used his new machine, he has stripped many pounds of copper wire, and gives the proceeds to the camp for use in the work of the Lord. He has actually worn out one of the parts that was made of heavy duty plastic. Ralph is already at work making a new part out of steel.

Friend caring for friend – to God be the glory!

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## Cross Style Church of the Nazarene

by Ron and Lisa Haley

We pulled into Lebanon Tennessee Dec 28<sup>th</sup>. After touring the projects that needed to be completed, we started working from, literally, the ground up. It took many hours to accomplish what we did.

We worked on a triplex and finished one whole apartment. We also started on a second unit in the triplex. We worked on another house and converted it to a 3 bedroom 2 full baths. That house will be used as transitional housing for a prison ministry. We also repaired things at the Church and other rentals.

We had the opportunity to attend one of their community meals they do every night! We have enjoyed their worship service. Pastor Stephen Manley and his wife Delphine have been very gracious to us.



God has been good we are grateful to serve A Risen King through ROAM!

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## Ministry of the Month

Thank you so much to ROAM Vice-President, Jean Morford, who responded to and worked with the Touring Camper website when they asked if they could feature our ROAM ministry. You can see the article that appeared on that website by going here [www.thetouringcamper.com/ministry-of-the-month-roam](http://www.thetouringcamper.com/ministry-of-the-month-roam). Also, Included along with this newsletter.

## **Your Attention Please...**

Attention ROAMers who are working projects. We need your reports of where you are working! We know there are many more ROAMers working across the country than who we receive reports & pictures from. Our ROAM newsletter subscribers love to know what you're doing on your projects! You can email articles & pics to the ROAM office at [office@rvsonamission.org](mailto:office@rvsonamission.org). If you are a Project Host, please feel free to let us know if you have appreciated having ROAMers at your project. We love to hear from you as well!

Serving Together,  
Debbie Bennett  
ROAM Office Manager

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**Share ROAM with a someone.  
They may want to have the same satisfaction  
as we do serving Christ!**



## Ministry of the Month: ROAM

Kristin April 7, 2016

At the beginning of this year we launched a new feature here at The Touring Camper that highlights ways campers, RVers, hikers, backpackers, or outdoor enthusiasts can get involved in service opportunities and give back to their communities. This month we are showcasing ROAM, which stands for RVs On A Mission. ROAM Vice President Jean Morford shared a little bit about this RV ministry and provided pictures of the volunteers at work.

**Tell me a little bit about the history of ROAM; when and why did it start?** ROAM was organized in 2003 by a group of Nazarene lay people who had been involved in other nondenominational volunteer organizations who had a desire to do similar volunteer work in Nazarene camps, churches, schools, and other special projects.

**Where do volunteers with ROAM work and serve? All around the U.S. or in particular regions?** We have projects from coast to coast and border to border in the U.S. We currently have 53 active projects in 26 states.

**Who can volunteer with ROAM? Are there certain requirements?** Although we are a Nazarene lay ministry, we do not require that members be a member of a Nazarene church. However, you must agree to and sign the mission statement.

**If a full-time RVing family with children wanted to be part of ROAM, would there be opportunities for the whole family to serve?** We have had families who have been a part of ROAM. In both families the children are homeschooled. Because of this, the wife has not been able to work as much as most women do, but in many of our camp projects, with advanced notice that there will be children, there would be opportunities for the children to work as well, depending on their age.

**How much time must volunteers commit to serve?** ROAM does not have a requirement of how many projects volunteers must work. Our projects are three-week projects, usually beginning on the first Monday of the month. The men are asked to work six-hour days for four days, usually Monday through Thursday. However, this schedule can be flexible based on the needs of the project. Women are

expected to work at least three hours a day. We have some volunteers that work only one project a year and some who work six to 10.

**What type of work do ROAM volunteers usually do? Are there projects for all skill levels and health restrictions?** ROAMers do a variety of things depending on the needs of the project. We have people who are involved in all aspects of construction, lawn maintenance, food service, cleaning, office work, auto repair and many other things. There are always things people with health restrictions can do. People are never asked to do anything they are uncomfortable doing.

**Where do ROAM team members live and park their camper during the projects?** Each project is responsible for providing full hook-ups for the RVs of ROAMers. Most projects have one or more hook-ups onsite but there are a few that will provide a spot at a public RV park. Some camp projects provide lodging in a lodge or cabin for ROAMers that do not have an RV. ROAMers are responsible for their own transportation to the project and for their own meals.

**Can you share a highlight or special moment from the work ROAM did this past year?** It is really difficult to share just one highlight as we have had many people working at different locations across the nation. One of the projects that my husband and I worked on this last year was at New Beginnings Church in Casa Grande, Ariz. This is a small church that has a huge ministry in their community. The team members remodeled a house that belonged to the church, helped with the food distributions that occur at least once each month, helped clean and remodel the warehouse to city/county requirements, and assisted with a thrift store that is being remodeled into a ministry center. The team members interacted with several people who are being reached through this ministry. One of the highlights was a Sunday night special, Victory In Jesus, sung by three of the men who have been delivered from a life of addictions and prison. This church is continually reaching out to people who have great needs, whether they be physical, emotional, or physical. What a blessing for all of us who have been privileged to work here!

Thank you Jean for sharing about the work ROAM volunteers are doing! If you are interested in finding out more about this ministry, please visit the ROAM website.