



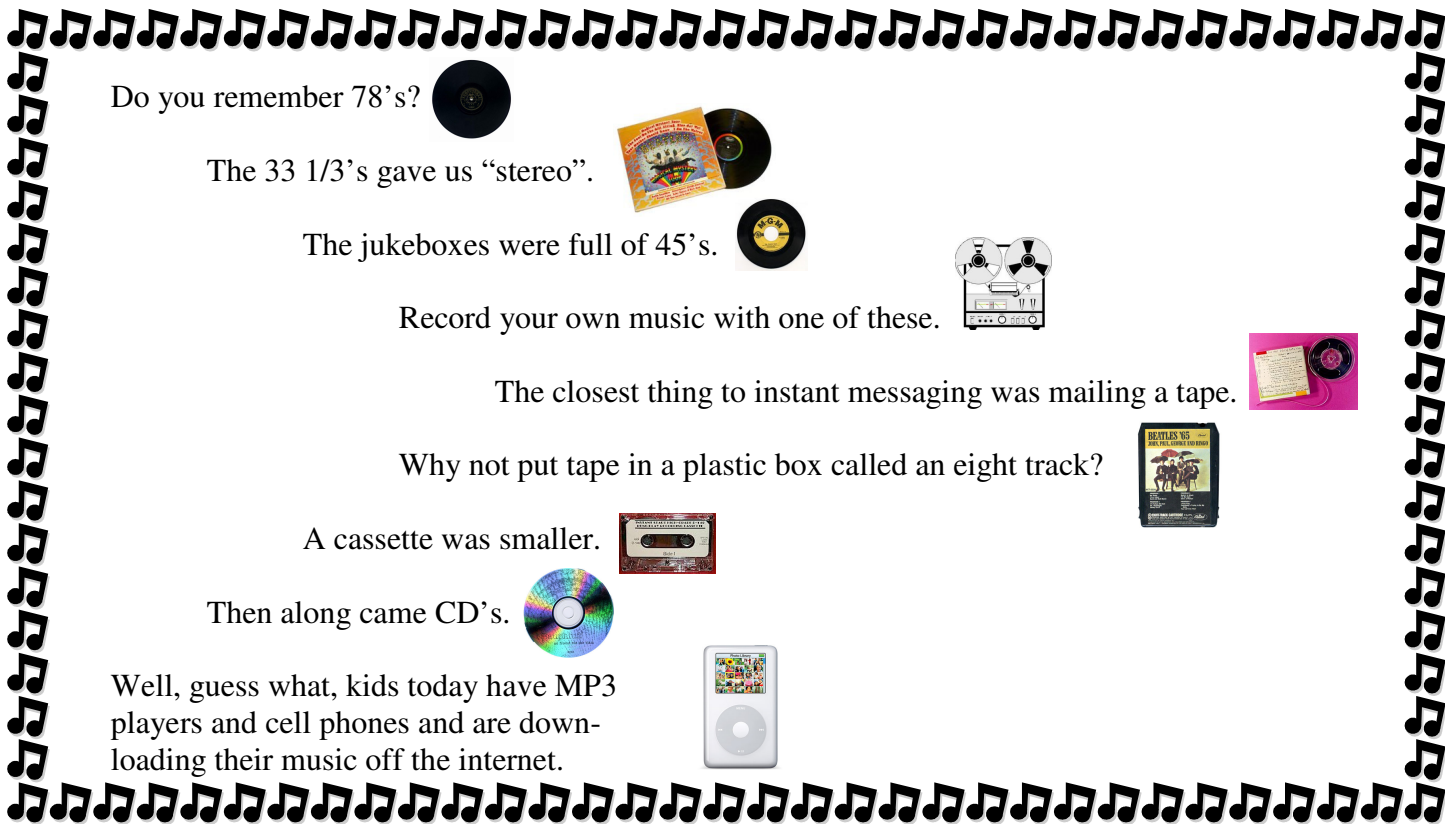
Kidding Khronicle



10230 E. State Rd.

Winter 2005

Nashville, MI 49073



Do you remember 78's?



The 33 1/3's gave us "stereo".



The jukeboxes were full of 45's.



Record your own music with one of these.



The closest thing to instant messaging was mailing a tape.



Why not put tape in a plastic box called an eight track?



A cassette was smaller.



Then along came CD's.



Well, guess what, kids today have MP3 players and cell phones and are downloading their music off the internet.



Charting The Coarse



Do you remember a group called The Puppet People? What about The Puppet Prospectors? I know you have heard of Jest Kidding. All of these represent past changes in our ministry. The focus has always been to present the unchanging Word of God to boys and girls. In order to do that most effectively we have had to make some changes. Each change was possible because of the success of the previous method. So we have gone from success to success when it comes to reaching children for Christ. Our purpose and focus have never changed only our methods.

As we face a new year it helps us to know where we are going and what we are doing. None of us know the future but it is our responsibility to make plans as to what we are going to do for the Lord if He does not return first. As we enter the new year we are also entering a new era of our ministry. Another exciting change is before us.

This year Sheldon DROVE to 25 states doing gospel programs. That is a bit higher than normal. Most years it is between 15-17 states. The number of meetings this year has been about the same. We are doing around 175 per year. I'm sure it would be fair to say that there is an average of at least 100 kids at each program. So we are looking at somewhere around 17,500 kids. That's a lot of kids who's lives have been touched thanks to you.

But what if I were to tell you that this next year we expect to reach 52,000? That is a thousand for each week of the year. Can we do it? I am convinced that we can IF we are willing to make another change.

It would be difficult if not impossible to DRIVE to more than 25 states in 2006. If the average really is 100 kids per program, it would require doing 520 programs in 2006. That WOULD be impossible. So how can we realistically expect to reach 52,000? It is called the internet.

Almost every school age child in America now has access to the internet. A computer is something these kids have had and used from the time they were born. These kids know how to use them and they are. So what are we doing to provide them with fun Christ centered web based Bible teaching?

For years we have been developing puppet, magic and juggling programs based on truths from God's Word. With today's technology it is possible to put those things on the internet. Let's face it, if a kid can load up their computers, ipods and cell phones with music videos, why couldn't they load them with gospel magic videos, etc.? What if they could watch a program on the internet and print out work sheets, puzzles, and a craft project that goes along with the theme of that program? We can do it.

All we need to do is take it to the next level—thus, phase III of our ministry. Phase three is taking all of those years of experience and making the Jest Kid-ding web site the premier Christian kids web site.

Can you imagine how much fun it will be when a kid can go to our web site and actually learn how to do a gospel magic trick? What about having a section to teach them how to juggle and have gospel applications to go along with it? We can do it.

What if a child could receive a message every day on his computer or on his cell phone with a short Bible verse and a word of encouragement to live for the Lord that day? We can do it.

What about a place where a kid could send us his favorite joke and have his joke posted on the site? Kids love to tell jokes. What if that kid could record himself telling the joke and then have us receive it as part of an email message to post on the web? We can do it.

What about having a complete step by step animated presentation of the plan of salvation that included a response form at the end that would come back to us? What if kids all over the world could access the site and find that same plan of salvation in THEIR language? We can do it.

Many of you have attended the workshops or seminars that we have taught. What if you could have access to that information on our site? Would that make it any easier for you to get ideas for your Sunday school class, Jr. church or AWANA program? We can do that too.

But here is what we can NOT do. We can not do the things I've just mentioned AND drive to 25 states a year and do 175 programs. The amount of time it takes to do that does not leave time to do the things I just described. I once heard someone say, "Don't give up the great life for a

good life." What we are doing now is good but let's not be content with a good ministry if it could be even better. Let's not be satisfied reaching 17,000 kids a year if it could be reaching 52,000.

God has brought people into our lives that know how to make all of the things happen that I mentioned. These are people with far more knowledge of how to put things on the internet than I have. All they need is the ideas and content. They can do their "magic" and put it on the web. So we have people with the "know how."

What we really need now is YOU. We need you to stand behind us more than ever with your prayers and your gifts. None of the things I mentioned come without a price tag. Some of these things we are going to have to pay people to do for us but for the number of lives we will touch, it is worth it.

It is not like we are going at this from a dead stop. We are already having between 4,000-5,000 page views per DAY on our web site. We have had several days when that number has gone up to 13,000. Yes, I said in ONE day. We are getting the traffic, we just need to have a strong gospel presence while they are there. We can do it, with your help.

Out of Gifts

911 was a tragedy when you look at all of the innocent lives that were lost. 911 also took its toll on many ministries and ours was no exception. The people of America stepped up to the plate and gave to meet the immediate needs. Praise the Lord for caring hearts.

Then it was just a year ago when the tsunami disaster hit and again American's responded with gifts of love. Then the hurricanes started hitting us with Katrina doing the most damage. Once again, Americans met the challenge with their gifts.

All of this is worthy of praise but many people are tapped out. They just don't have any more to give and as a result, ministries like ours have also had to pay a price. Please continue to pray that our needs are met. I trust this sheds some light as to why I have been trying to promote the affiliate program so much. I hate to ask people to give beyond what they already have. But if there are things that you will be buying anyway, by doing so through our web site it will help pick up some of the slack in "normal" giving. The winter months are expensive.

Opportunities

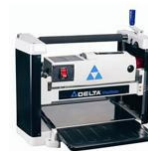
Phase three of our ministry does not mean that we will not be doing the "live" programs. It will mean that the number of them will have to be less. But even to put these items on the web, we still have to build the props, etc. necessary.

I'm sure that most of you really don't have any idea as to how many of the things we use are made by Vicky. This gal has been a real "God send". She has talents in so many crafts that translate into ministry props. One of the things that she could really use is a serger. You ladies know what I'm talking about. I'm sure that you would agree that when it comes to putting a finished edge on a sewing project, nothing does it better or easier than a serger. She has talked to others who own them and looked at several. It looks like a 5 thread one is best. They run around \$1,000 for a good one.



Are you aware that I have been borrowing a digital camera to take the pictures you see on our web site? There are lots of digital cameras to choose from in the \$200-\$300 range now.

We have had lots of shop tools given to us this year along with even more wood. Most of the wood has not been planed. Wouldn't you know it, one of the tools that we do NOT have is a planer. One like this sells for around \$225.



Take a look at this picture. Notice the fancy shape on the front of the box that Shampoo is in. Do you know that it is possible to cut that out with a hand saw? It takes time but I don't own a scroll saw. Having

the right tools sure makes building the props a lot easier. This scroll saw on the stand sells for around \$250.



So if you are looking for a tax-deductible project to end the year with, any of these things would certainly make life easier around here.

Time spent at a serger or a saw translates into Kingdom work when the project ends up in front of kids in a presentation of the gospel. That is what it is all about.