

## Leadership Harrison County Youth Retreat

By Ethel Hopkins

The Second Annual Retreat of Youth Leadership Harrison County was a success! The Leadership Harrison County Class of 2004 sponsored the youth retreat on August 26, 27, and 28. We had 12 youth attend the retreat, which was held in O'Bannon Woods State Park. The youth were required to bring "a willingness to become a servant leader of tomorrow today, openness to the ideas and opinions of others, and a hunger to learn and grow in leadership."



Marilyn Ethel Paul



Front Row: Charlie Ulvi, Ashleigh Cummins.  
Second Row: Linnea Bailey, Sarah Heath, Amanda Ingle, Miranda Prince, Justin Marlow, William Hambley.  
Back Row: Joshua Rogers, Tim Shannon, Olivia Satterfield, Richard Lowe, Paul Ingle.

On Friday, 8/26, at 5PM, Marilyn Faulkenburg, Paul Ingle, and Ethel Hopkins left the Gerdon Youth Center with 10 teens and set out for O'Bannon Woods State Park. Despite the rain that Friday evening, our plans for team building were rewarded. Wendy Swisher, youth motivational activist, challenged the teens in Session One of servant leadership skills and team building activities throughout the evening. After the exercises, it was time for a bonfire and topping the evening off – s'mores. Saturday we awoke to find a catered and delivered breakfast, provided by the efforts of Agus Juliawan. Two more teens and Schatzi Frye joined the retreat. Wendy conducted Session Two – "How do we make a difference in our community?" and a scavenger hunt.

Right: The youth struggle with a spirited team building activity, while Wendy scratches her head



Left: On Saturday, Paul Ingle, Troy Newport, Chris Byrd and Brent Lewis joined the retreat at Golf Shores Miniature Golf and later the YMCA.

Later in the day, it was time for putt putt golf and swimming. Saturday evening, Marilyn and Troy presented Session Three – Mentoring and being a mentee. The day ended with some exciting AHAs and another bonfire. On Sunday, up and at 'em again with a great breakfast, and Session Four- Where do we go from here?



Servant Leadership and fellowship in the dining hall.

Lists of the follow-up sessions for the youth include:

- |              |                                                      |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| September 22 | Wendy Swisher will present learning styles           |
| October 27   | Chris Byrd will present local government information |
| November 17  | The youth will finalize their community project      |
| December 22  | Community project/graduation/lock in at GYC          |

If you would be interested in volunteering for any of the sessions, fundraisers, or the next retreat, you may contact Leadership Harrison County. The 2004 Leadership Harrison County Class Motto: **DEVELOPING LEADERS OF TOMORROW TODAY.**

*Thanks to our supporters Leadership Harrison County, Harrison County Community Foundation, and Class of 2004.*