



Coming Home

News from The Bishop's Ranch

Fall 2007

From the Executive Director

How They Spent Their Summer Vacations

Like most of the volunteers, my hat was pulled low over my eyes against the bright sun, my face was sweating under the paper dust mask and gritty dirt had fallen inside my leather work gloves as I shoveled the rocks, clods and soil. Here at the building site of the new Swing Pavilion, an occasional breeze was heavenly, cooling us off and pushing the dust cloud away. We piled the characteristic red clay soil of the Ranch onto frames, sifting it through two sizes of screens to produce fine, uniform particles. It was satisfying to turn the rocky, cloddy soil into an evenly sifted powder. This product from the very soil of the Ranch



makes a naturally good plaster to coat the interior of the Pavilion's rice-straw bale walls.

For several weeks in July and August, teen, adult and even a few child campers gave up some of their free time to literally raise something out of the ground. The soil we sifted was then mixed with water by the skilled plastering crew, led by Tracy Vogel and Mary Golden, to create an



ancient, but updated, wall plaster. The Ranch earth became a beautiful terra cotta colored skin on the sunbleached straw bale walls. For subsequent coats it is mixed with other substances such as sand, chopped straw and cellulose in

order to create the outer coats of earth plaster. The final coat will be adjusted for the desired texture and color.

As I worked with the others to sift the soil, I thought about how we undertook the Pavilion project. In the eighteen years I've been at the Ranch, we have worked steadily to enhance the Ranch's ability to be a sacred place of renewal. During all that time the idea of an indoor gathering place--one with room for the many activities that enrich Ranch experiences--has



been part of the planning. As I helped sift soil through the quarter and eighth-inch screens, I thought of the long road that has led from the conception of the Pavilion to the actual construction we are

continued on page 2

Funding Our Ministry - Maria Kip Gives Matching Grant for Scholarships

Children, teens and young adults from all over the Bay Area make pilgrimages to the Ranch in the summer. Over 400 diverse campers, students and choir members visit each year. Some of them have never seen cows grazing in a pasture; some have never had the experience of a retreat, and most leave the Ranch relaxed and renewed after a number of days in community together. The Ranch plays a role in the life story of over 6,000 people each year.

There are many subtle ways the Ranch may touch a guest's heart: a good meal shared with friends; a meeting where people reached an epiphany; or an encounter with bird song. Removing the dust of everyday life from the soul is a powerful catalyst for change. After a weekend



at the Ranch, families feel an intimacy with their church communities that comes from eating, worshiping, sharing stories and playing together in a beautiful, relaxed setting. The Ranch serves parish retreats, summer camps, Benedictine experiences, watershed education programs, silent retreats,

school groups, nonprofit groups, volunteer projects, and personal retreats. An outstanding location and climate, delicious and healthy meals, clean and comfortable meeting and sleeping accommodations and 24-hour staff presented in a low-key manner allow guests to relax and enter into

the life of the place. The Ranch belongs to all visitors, and its ministry touches each person in a different way.

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The Bishop's Ranch Staff
Sean Swift, Exec. Director

Office
Sarah McGowan
Kirstin Paisley
Shannon Reilly
Caroline Draper Swift

Kitchen
Melanie Berry
Chris Faurot
Lucy Kotter
Alex Lopez
Saul Lopez
Robin Miller
Pedro Morales
Eleanor Nichols
Kandie Sims
James Stine
Nik Yull

Housekeeping
Concepcion Conde
Cacilia Dale
Maria González
Mireya Levaro
Josefina Lopez
Rosalba Nuno Aguirre
Cuca Padilla

Buildings and Gardens
Kathy Laugero
Todd Reed
Tim Watterman

Programs
The Rev. James Brown
Jack Dowling
The Rev. Richard Ford
Lisa Marie Thorpe

Coming Home

A bi-annual newsletter about life at The Bishop's Ranch, a retreat and conference center for all ages.

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Jack Dowling
Sarah McGowan

Summer Vacation

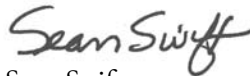
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experiencing now. The process, over years, of working out where to site the building, how it would best address Ranch needs, what construction materials to use, who would help us build it, was also a sifting process.

Architects Jerry Wagner, Bob Theis and the design committee, using the guiding themes of sustainability, hospitality and the timely honoring of Bill and Mary Swing, sifted overwhelming amounts of information into a coherent building plan. As the building takes shape under the expert builders of GCCI and the craftspeople they have assembled, it is apparent the space will accommodate a wide range of meeting needs--space that is comfortable for intimate gatherings while also serving larger group activities that have been difficult to host heretofore. It is thrilling to see construction moving forward as gifts and pledges are being received and though much is yet to be done in both areas, a lot has been accomplished.

With one pile of rough soil sifted out, we put the shovels away, covered the precious piles of raw material we had produced and tried to dust ourselves off. This work helps you feel gratitude for the simple, important things in your life--like water, clean clothes, a joke, rest. As the Pavilion walls gather shape and beauty from the earth, I feel even more gratitude to the generous donors and volunteers who are reaching out beyond themselves and into the future to support an idea that grows from humble but fertile soil. Many thanks--you are creating an inspirational place where, for generations, people will lovingly gather and be renewed.

Sincerely,



Sean Swift
Executive Director



Phase II of the Swing Pavilion Project capital campaign is off to a good start with some significant gifts and a matching opportunity you will hear more about later.

The Pavilion addresses a long time need at the Ranch for a place where people can gather under one generous roof in all kinds of weather. Past expansion and renovation of housing space provided for more groups and more hospitable accommodations, but activity space has always been limited. Currently, parish groups wanting space for larger group meetings, talent shows or dancing have had to compete with food service in the Refectory. This has created an imbalance, where housing capacity has exceeded indoor activity space. The Swing Pavilion will resolve this problem.

How You Can Help

Each Friend of the Ranch is encouraged to prayerfully consider a generous gift that will make it possible for The Bishop's Ranch to reach our potential to serve members of the diocese and the community.

Sample gift distribution essential for the \$ 1,700,000 Phase II Campaign:

Gift Size	# Needed	Cumul. Total	Monthly*
\$350,000	1	\$ 350,000	\$9,722
\$200,000	1	\$ 550,000	\$5,556
\$100,000	2	\$ 750,000	\$2,778
\$50,000	6	\$1,050,000	\$1,389
\$25,000	10	\$1,300,000	\$694
\$10,000	15	\$1,450,000	\$278
\$5,000	20	\$1,550,000	\$139
\$3,000	30	\$1,640,000	\$83
\$1,000	50	\$1,690,000	\$28
< \$500	many	Goal Met!	

*Monthly payments are for a 3-year pledge.

Quilt Raffle Drawing

Last fall the Guilded Lilies, a local quilt group, donated a quilt to benefit the Swing Pavilion Project. Thanks to their generosity 1,226 tickets were sold and \$5,105 was raised in the raffle. The drawing was held on June 30 and the lucky winners were Mary and Ted Thompson.

They are pictured here with the quilt and their dog, Foxtrot. They live in a nearly 100 year old Craftsman style house and Mary says, "the quilt and the colors alike complement our home really well." The Ranch staff are delighted the quilt has found such a good home. Many thanks to all who participated in the raffle and made it a success.



Ted and Mary Thompson with their new quilt and their dog, Foxtrot

Ranch Staff News

Kirstin Paisley, a CDSP seminarian, has been helping out around the Ranch this summer, primarily with camps and hosting. Although Kirstin returns to CDSP in the fall, luckily for us she plans to help out on occasional weekends. Maintenance coordinator Tim Watterman is learning to kite board. We're happy that Nik



Yull is back in the kitchen cooking up tasty treats. Kathy Laugero's daughter Kaitlin is off to college at Cornish in Seattle this fall. Housekeeping



assistant Maria Gonzalez and husband Angel bought their

first family home in Windsor this summer. Cacilia Dale is expecting a grandchild from her youngest daughter Kathy next January. Cacilia's youngest son, Jeffrey Dale, graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo this spring with a degree in mechanical engineering and has started working for Northrup Grumman in the Space Technology Division.



Cacilia with daughter Kathy

The Bishop's Ranch Wish List

Maintenance/grounds wishes:

- Drill press
- Electric golf course utility vehicle
- Garden shed, large
- Greenhouse, small
- Kawasaki Mule 4-wheel drive vehicle
- Ladder, 6' and 10' aluminum
- Landscape materials: large boulders, soil, flagstone
- Log splitter
- Paint gun sprayer
- Shade structure
- Small 4WD pickup

Other wishes:

- Blue hymnals, red Books of Common Prayer
- Blender, industrial size and strength
- Front loading, high efficiency washing machine and dryer
- Rug shampooer
- Sheets, twin or double in excellent condition
- Softball or baseball mitts
- Towels, bath, excellent condition
- Vacuums, excellent condition

A monetary or in-kind gift for an item on the wish list helps Ranch guests have a more productive or comfortable stay and helps the Ranch staff improve services to guests.

The Bishop's Ranch Board
Chairman of the Board, The Rt. Rev. Marc Handley Andrus, Diocese of California
President, Lloyd W. Aubry, St. Paul's, Burlingame
Vice President, Kay Bishop, St. Luke's, San Francisco
Treasurer, Richard Reed, St. Paul's, Burlingame
Secretary, Christopher Lewis, St. John's, Ross
 Barbara Bender-Breck, Berkeley
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 Jack Dowling, The Bishop's Ranch
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 Richard Ford, The Bishop's Ranch
 James Forsyth, Diocese of California
 Judy Harris, Epiphany, San Carlos
 Nigel Heath, St. John's, Ross
 Lyn Klein, St. John's, Ross
 Gary Lawrence, Church of the Resurrection, Pleasant Hill
 David Lawson, CDSP
 Carole Jan Lee, St. James, San Francisco
 Paul Martin, St. Stephen's, Orinda
 Peter J. Musto, St. Mary's, San Francisco
 Sam Parke, St. Stephens, Belvedere
 Sheila Sims, St. Paul's, Oakland
 Deborah Sorondo, Our Saviour, Mill Valley
 Sean Swift, The Bishop's Ranch
 Alicia Vázquez, Good Samaritan Family Resource Center
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 Joseph H. Pummill, St. James, San Francisco
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 Ian M. White

El Rancho del Obispo Endowment Fund In Memory of Patty Draper

Are you the kind of person who thinks long term? The man who purchased the Ranch for the benefit of all of us was a person like that.

Since Bishop Karl Morgan Block purchased the 63 acres from the White family in 1947, thousands and thousands of people have enjoyed the renewal offered by the peaceful, fertile, inspiring land of The Bishop's Ranch and the experience of living in Christian community. It is vitally important to keep the Ranch buildings and grounds in excellent shape and protect the now 343 acres entrusted to us. We have found that if our surroundings are obviously well cared for, guests are able to relax and focus on their work of education, renewal, or community building.



Bishop Block and friends

The El Rancho del Obispo Endowment Fund was developed because it is critical to ensure the long term protection of the Ranch facilities and land. The fund, which contains \$242,541 is carefully managed by a special committee to provide annual income for Ranch upkeep.

A gift to the fund will help thousands of people over generations to enjoy the gifts of beautiful, peaceful surroundings and the priceless gift of community in a sacred place. Gifts to the fund may be made in many ways to provide tax benefit to the donor:

- gifts of cash or securities
- planned gifts including bequests, insurance beneficiary, or charitable gift annuity

Please contact Sarah McGowan at 707-433-2440 x105 to find out more about how to help foster individual and community renewal through the endowment fund.

Fiddler Concert at Church of the Resurrection, Pleasant Hill

On a warm summer evening, 100 people gathered at Church of the Resurrection in Pleasant Hill to sip Sonoma wines, eat food prepared from Bishop's Ranch recipes, and listen to 50 members of the San Francisco Scottish Fiddlers perform three lively sets for a Swing Pavilion benefit. The inviting church courtyard was decorated with plaid flags and table cloths. The atmosphere was festive and comfortable, as people mingled in the courtyard for food and conversation between music sets. The fiddlers' performances in the concert hall were lively and quite enjoyed by all.

Volunteers from the church prepared and donated the food. The recipes included: watermelon gazpacho; Moroccan lamb kabobs; grilled pork tenderloin; baked polenta with spinach, fontina, and gorgonzola; jicama with lime and chili salad; lemon-chicken pasta salad with greens; romaine, grapefruit,

We are profoundly saddened by the death of a long-time friend of The Bishop's Ranch. Patty Draper passed away suddenly on July 11, 2007 at the age of 32.

Patty graduated from U.C. Davis in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and one in business administration. She was a valued employee for the last five years at a local company which manufactures equipment for the high tech industry, and had just been hired to teach a class at Santa Rosa Junior College. After being a Peace Corps volunteer in Cameroon, she moved to the Ranch in 2001 and was a skilled and cheerful member of our maintenance team for almost a year.



The cause of Patty's death may never be known, though preliminary blood test results showed normal levels of a couple of medications prescribed to treat frequent, often severe headaches she had been having for the past five years.

Patty is the beloved niece of Sean Swift and Caroline Draper Swift. She was an important part of their family and spent many weekends and family vacations with them. She loved being a part of Ranch life and becoming friends with guests and staff. She was also very fond of all the animals at the Ranch and in 2004 provided a comfortable home for Barnabas, one of our feline mascots, when he became too old to live at the Ranch. Patty will be deeply missed by many, many family members, friends and colleagues.

The Ranch has received several recent gifts in Patty's memory which will be acknowledged in the Spring 2008 newsletter.

jicama and avocado salad; marinated vegetables with herbs; cowboy cookies; almond biscotti; ice cream with blueberry and caramel sauces, and Flying Goat coffee.

The rousing music played by massed fiddlers and other musicians included tunes such as Da Slookit Light, My Cape Breton Home, and Waiting for the Dawn. Solo piano, song, and Scottish dance performances met with great applause by the enthusiastic audience.

From all at the Ranch, our thanks to the many people, including the talented Scottish Fiddlers and superb event organizer Gary Lawrence, who helped make this such a successful evening.



The Sounds of Summer

by Jack Dowling, Program Director

We have just finished the six week period in the summer when children, youth and adults from around the diocese and beyond attend Ranch-sponsored summer camp programs. It is a time when we settle into the easy rhythm of week-long camps.

Our summer began with the sound of music as children with an interest in singing came to the Ranch to participate in Choral Music Camp. They worked together to learn songs, create costumes and sets, and then perform a musical production. This year's camp presented a telling of the book of Exodus with "Moses and the Freedom Fanatics." It was wonderful to see the joy on the campers faces as they performed for their family and friends.

The week after Choral Camp we heard another type of joyful noise, that of families of all shapes and sizes joining each other in community living at Family Camp. Children experienced a sense of independence, while parents were comforted in knowing that the community was providing a safe place. Arts and crafts, community worship, swimming and hiking are some of the daily activities families enjoyed. Laughter, singing and shouts of encouragement filled the air.

We made a transition from a low rumble to quiet whisper when the Benedictine Spirituality Experience brought the smells and bells of the daily office and the discipline of the Rule of St. Benedict. This quiet week gave us a breather before the final three camp programs.

The two B.R.E.A.D. Camps (Bible, Recreation, Exploration And Discovery) provide a place where teens live through a week of Christian community, where they can experience unconditional love. In the words of one camper, "At BREAD you slowly peel away layers to reveal your true self to others."

This year campers explored the idea of what makes the Kingdom of God manifest here on earth. They discussed what connects and divides us, how we reconcile our differences and forgive each other, and how we can be stewards of God's creation. Bishop Marc came and spent time with the campers in small group discussion, singing and dancing.

The final week of our summer program is Generations Camp, another camp for families. Children, parents and grandparents made a joyful noise unto God while feeling the love of community.

Summer at the Ranch brings many sounds which, when listened to closely, can sound like the voice of God. Come listen with us sometime.



At BREAD camp young people form a loving, supportive community, discuss relevant topics and have lots of fun.



Can you catch the spirit?



Small group session with Bishop Marc.



Family-friendly worship in the chapel.



Choral Music Camp, where campers spend the week learning a musical production and having other fun camp experiences.



A Russian River field trip.

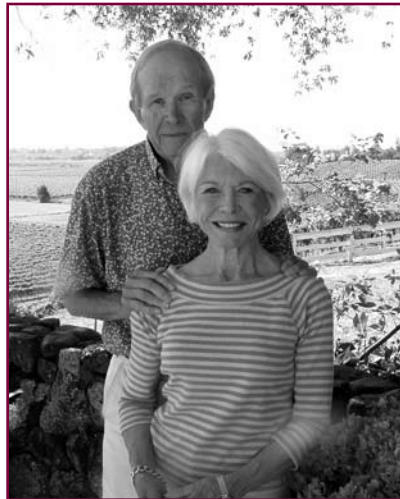


Family Camp and Generations Camp are places where families find out what kind of community can develop when God's children of all ages gather to work, play, relax and talk.

Thank you for Swing Pavilion gifts and payments

Christopher G. Bailey and Liz Tracy
 Francine Baldus
 Ms. Ruth Baney
 Marilyn and Howard Belove
 Laurie Bennett
 Craig Benson and Julie Eccles-Benson
 Klaus and Cheryl Berkner
 Kay Bishop
 Theresa Nagle-Boisset
 and Hugues Boisset
 Russ and Svetlana Bratburd
 M.J.H. Brill
 The Rev. James T. Brown
 Randy and Mimi Bupp
 Barbara H. Cadwalader
 Susan Cakars
 Bill and Lois Cannady
 Pete and Lee Caraher
 Theora Cavanaugh
 Walton Chang and Linda James,
 Deanna and Kam Chang
 Val Chappel
 Mary Jane Chetelat
 Cherry Clark
 Robert and Pamela Clark
 John and Kathy Clendenen
 Joan Robie Clerk
 Elizabeth Colton
 Carolyn Cooper
 Jim and Sue Cosenza
 Joseph and Erika Coughlan
 Larry Craighill and Bea Hartman
 William E. Crisick

The Rev. Kathy Crary
 and Ms. Carol Graham
 Ron Dallara
 The Rev. Barbara Louise Dawson
 and Mr. David Dawson



*Ranch neighbors Jim and Peg Love:
 "We feel good about supporting The
 Bishop's Ranch because it is a Christian
 institution with a bright future, rich
 history, continuing development, a
 location of note, and people that are
 interesting and intellectual."
 Thank you Jim and Peg.*

Ms. Laurie Di Fraia
 Gary W. Diefenbacher
 and Beverly Lass Diefenbacher
 Nancy Dougherty
 Jack Dowling and Lisa Thorpe
 Joel Duncan

and The Rev. Stacy Williams-Duncan
 Dennis and Phyllis Edmondson
 Clay and Miriam Englar
 Mark and Jean Farmer
 Lori and Dennis Erokan
 Tom Eshelman and Jeanne Finan
 Cal and Susannah Faria
 Jim and Janelle Fazackerley
 Chip and Kay Filak
 The Rev. and Mrs. Richard B. Ford
 James Forsyth
 Jack Fredricks
 Spencer and Rena Fulweiler
 William and Helen Furber
 Linda and Victor Gavenda
 Victor and Christine Gold
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 Donald and Katharine Green
 The Rev. Catie Greene
 Bill and Nancy Grove
 Maria Guerrero
 Stanley Gwyn
 Harry and Shirley Hagey
 Ulele Hamway
 Allan and Betsy Harris
 Paul Harris and Naomi Chamberlain
 Steven and Frances Harrison
 Jo Ann Haseltine
 Nigel G. and Jane A. Heath
 Steve and Bev Heising
 Regan Hemphill
 Roy and Pat Henderson
 Roy and Joanna Henrichs
 The Herman/Watson Family
 Cal and Lani Herrmann
 Tom and Connie Hodgson
 John and Catrinka Holland
 The Rev. Jill Honodel
 The Rev. Garrison and Carol Horle
 The Rev. Dede Jamison
 J. Peter and Jan Jensen
 Pamela Johnson
 Sinclair and Conci Johnson
 The Ven. Dorothy K. Jones
 Anya Karapetian
 E. Kim and John Kaso
 Chet and Betty Kean
 Ralph and Joy Keele

Organization and Group Gifts to the Swing Pavilion

Bank of America Foundation
 Davidson Family Fund of Episcopal Charities
 Episcopal Diocese of California
 Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
 Grace Cathedral Family Ministries
 Grace Episcopal Church, Martinez
 The McCaskill Family Charitable Fund
 Men of Grace Cathedral
 Richard Schaper/Anita Ostrom and Episcopal Charities
 St. Bede's Episcopal Church
 St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Danville
 Schwab Fund for Charitable Giving
 The San Francisco Scottish Fiddlers

received between February 1 and July 31!

Gifts in Honor of Kay Bishop's birthday

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd W. Aubry
 James and Patricia Beers
 Marilyn Brook
 Frank De Rosa
 Howard N. and Nancy Bishop Dietrich
 Wallace Frey
 The Rev. and Mrs. David W. Gordon
 John Howett
 Mary Kramer
 Bill Lorton
 James F. Manser
 Holly McAlpen
 Richard Mowry and Gustavo Lagos
 Marshall and Emily Mugge
 Mr. Peter J. Musto
 Kay Stroppiana
 Sean Swift and Caroline Draper Swift
 Elizabeth Westlund
 Henrietta Wisniewski
 Wild Cat Education and Conservation Fund

Gayle Kindall
 Sylvia Morton Kingsley
 Chuck and Halle Kistenmacher
 Elaine Klatt
 Mike and Myrle Kritscher
 Elisabeth Kurr
 The Rev. Joseph A. Lane
 Gary and Joan Lawrence
 The Rev. Amy Lawrence
 Henry H. and Carole Jan Lee
 Margo Leslie
 Christopher and Peggy Lewis
 David Little and Lita Gloor-Little
 Jim and Peg Love
 Frank and Norma Macan
 Dale Madden
 Jim and Dena Maniatis
 Paul & Victoria Martin and Family
 Bob McCaskill
 Lauren P. McCombs
 James and Sarah McGowan
 George and Georgi McLain
 Mrs. Margaret Mealy
 Jean Meredith
 Lili W. Micaela
 Curtis Moore
 Deborah and James D. Murchison III

Charles and Lynn Murphy
 Bette Nelson
 Eleanor Joy Nichols
 Olivia Orr
 Katharine Osburn
 Mark and Mary Peterson
 Charles L. Ramsden
 Nancy Rauch
 Mary C. Reese-Upton
 Tim and Kathy Repp
 J. Scott and Roxanne Rhoades
 Cindy Rice
 Melissa Ridlon
 Ray and Bill Riess
 Carole C. Robie
 The Rev. Lynn Oldham Robinett
 and Ryan Robinett
 The. Rt. Rev. Catherine
 and Dr. Philip K. Roskam
 The Rev. George and Darlene Ross
 Byron and Patricia Rovegno
 Virginia Royden
 Marianne Callahan
 The Rev. Richard L. Schaper
 and The Rev. Anita Ostrom
 Kirk Schneider and Jurate Raulinaitis
 Mike and Veronique Schutz
 Michael and Catherine Secour
 Daniel and Lynda Smith
 Brad and Shelley Smith
 The Rev. Bruce and Deb Smith
 Pete and Karen Smyth
 Bessie Smyth
 Phil Spieth and Jan Pinkerton Spieth
 John Stansbury and Rita Haronian
 The Rev. Steven Strane
 Jeff Strathmeyer and Patty Strickland

These names reflect gifts or pledge payments received between February 1, 2007 and July 31, 2007. If you sent in a contribution during this time and your name is not listed here, we apologize. Please contact us to let us know. If we received a contribution after July 31, 2007 your name will appear in the next newsletter.

Mark Stutzman
 The Sweeney Family
 Betty Swift
 Sean Swift and Caroline Draper Swift
 Ms. Jeanne Taylor
 Tony Thayer and Mary Wujek-Thayer
 Ken and Elizabeth Thompson
 The Rev. Edward and Mary Thompson
 Pate and Judy Thomson
 The Rev. Dennis Stanley Tierney and
 Grace E. Grant
 Mr. Arthur C.
 and The Rev. Dr. Fran Toy
 Phil and Fran Trant
 Thomas K. and Roxanna S. Trutner
 Blake and Bessie Vance
 Mr. John Vander Kamp
 Alicia Vazquez
 Mr. and Mrs. Jephtha A. Wade, Jr.
 Dan and Rachel Wagner
 Marlin and Judy Whitney
 Scott Williams
 Diane B. Wilsey
 Norman and Martha Wohlken
 Mary-Jane Wood
 Janice Woodman
 Howie Zwiefel and Mary Kay Gobris

Gifts in Memory or Honor

Clark and Barbara Bisel in honor of Richard Patera
 Anne Casscells and Susan Ketcham in honor of Dick Reed
 Ron Johnson in memory of Alexander Evans
 Mr. Corder Nelson in honor of Sarah Elizabeth McGowan's birthday
 Nancy Nelson and Denis Ivanisevic in honor of Sarah McGowan
 Ms. Rebecca Nelson in honor of Sarah Elizabeth McGowan's birthday
 Ellen Trainor in honor of Sarah Elizabeth McGowan's birthday
 Margery A. Ward in memory of Herb Ward and in thanksgiving for family
 Shepherd by the Sea Episcopal/Lutheran Mission in memory of Fr. Peter Farmer

Thank you for gifts to the Ranch's annual operations

These names reflect gifts or pledge payments received between February 1, 2007 and July 31, 2007. If you sent in a contribution during this time and your name is not listed here, we apologize. Please contact us to let us know. If we received a contribution after July 31, 2007 your name will appear in the next newsletter.

The Rev. Dr. Howard R. Anderson
 Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd W. Aubry
 The Rev. Bruce Bayne
 Kay Bishop
 William and Susan Blomberg
 Marc Bommersbach and Judith Olney
 Bruce and Christine Brent
 Clara K. Brown
 Alex and Katie Calhoun
 Sharon Takahashi
 Colleen Cannon
 Phyllis J. Culp



Real Goods Donations

Peggy Bourland-Madison, bath towels
 Bill and Pat Cline, linens
 J. Jeffrey and Stephanie JC Gibbs, an Apple iMac G4
 Maria and Angel Gonzalez, an iron and linens
 Roy and Joanna Henrichs, bath towels
 The Ven. Dorothy K. Jones, fan
 Ralph and Joy Keele, linens and blankets
 Gary Lawrence, acquiring and
 delivering two bee colonies to install in our beehives
 The Leake Family, linens
 Henry H. and Carole Jan Lee, linens
 John and Karen Medford, linens
 John Renke and William Musick, a new fair linen in
 honor of The Rev. Jim Brown
 Robert E. Stutz, compost

Jim and Julia Davidson
 Clancy Drake and Stephen Hassett
 Dennis and Phyllis Edmondson
 Dan Eesley and Susan T. Lucas
 Rick Eggerth and Lucy Eggerth
 Edith Ellis-Goering
 Ben and Katie Evenbeck
 Mark and Jean Farmer
 Jim and Janelle Fazackerley
 The Rev. and Mrs. Richard B. Ford
 Hugh W. and Ceseli E.D. Foster
 Alexander Gansa
 Jean Gansa
 Ian Greensides
 Lee M. Hartline
 Ralph and Joy Keele



Ivan and Clare

Volunteers

Abby, last name unknown
 Bishop's Ranch Board of Directors
 and Advisory Council
 Gloria Boadwee
 Theresa Nagle-Boisset
 Russ and Svetlana Bratburd
 BREAD Camp Staff
 BREAD Campers
 Choral Music Camp Staff
 Richard and Meg Coons
 Jim and Sue Cosenza
 Ron Dallara
 Nancy Dougherty
 Family Camp Staff
 Generations Camp Staff
 Maria Guerrero
 Steven Harrison
 Bob Kelly
 Chuck Kistenmacher
 Gary and Joan Lawrence
 David Little and Lita Gloor-Little
 George and Georgi McLain
 Men of Grace
 Jean Meredith
 Ron Odneal
 Mark and Mary Peterson
 Carolyn Richardson
 Karin Tredrea
 Rachel Waldman
 Marlin and Judy Whitney
 Scott Williams
 Janice Woodman

and development between February 1 and July 31!



Don and Lyn Klein
 Gary and Joan Lawrence
 Dave Lawson
 Henry H. and Carole Jan Lee
 Christopher and Peggy Lewis
 Robert N. Lowry
 Hannah Marks
 The Rev. and Mrs. Christopher Martin
 Tom and Ann Matthews
 W. Lynn McLaughlin and David L. Webb
 Joe Mesics
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 Larry and Barbara Nolan
 Judith Olney and Marc Bommersbach
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 Ginny and Dick Reed
 The Rev. Lynn Oldham Robinett and Ryan Robinett
 Jay and Rosanna Russell
 Ms. Jane G. Schubert
 Michael and Catherine Secour
 David and Susan Singer
 Sean Swift and Caroline Draper Swift
 Martin V. Thomas
 S. Lisa Warry
 Greg and Nancy Wilson
 Jon and Elizabeth Worden

Organization and Group Gifts

Choral Music camp parents
 Maria Kip Orphanage Foundation
 St. Dorothy's Rest
 Sweet 16 Bridge Club
 The Bertha and John Garabedian Foundation
 The Jeannette Upton Endowment
 The Margaret Wosser Foundation

Memory/Honor

Kay Bishop in honor of Holly McAlpen's
 honorary doctorate from CDSP
 Barbara Crossland and Cindy in memory of Peter Haro
 EduQuest in memory of Peter Haro
 Mr. Ron Glens in memory of Rev. Peter Farmer
 Jan Herbert in memory of Peg Gilreath
 Patricia Jelley in honor of Phil Jelley's birthday
 Bill Lorton in honor of Holly McAlpen's
 honorary doctorate from CDSP
 Peter B. Mohr in memory of J. Peter Farmer
 Ayliffe Mumford given in appreciation of Cornelia Wattley
 Robert and Margaret Schwob in memory of Peter Haro
 Mr. Arthur C. and The Rev. Dr. Fran Toy
 in memory of The Rev. Peter Farmer

In Memory of Sue Joan Batton

Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Acrea
 Lucia Agati
 Helen L. Bacon
 Carolyn Cooper
 Dennis and Phyllis Edmondson
 George and Janice Francis
 her Tea Cup friends
 Ed and Barbara Kousky
 Rose Price
 Ralph T. and Virginia M. Rodgers
 Joyce Rowe



Havens – Gina's Orchard

Gina's Orchard is a breathtakingly wild 23 acres of bottomland along Turtle Creek dotted by large old bay, ash and oak trees, and an orchard of apple trees begun in the 1870's. The orchard is named after Gina Monaco, the granddaughter of Ranch neighbors Marty and Joyce Griffin. Gina died of leukemia August 23, 1998, and Marty and Joyce made the land available in her memory for Ranch educational programs about the Russian River environment.

Through the Gina's Orchard Watershed Education Program, elementary school children come onto Ranch lands to learn about the environment through the lens of watershed. Children experience how we are all connected by the waters of life. In the last 5 years, the Gina's Orchard program has helped students from local schools learn more about the remarkable Russian River basin ecosystem.

The Ranch has the management responsibilities for this land, and the blessings of this unique resource are available for schools, churches and other groups for guided educational programs.

This summer the BREAD campers were able to experience guided walks in unspoiled nature. As they walked, they



Jr High BREAD campers stop to pick and enjoy apples on their hike through the watershed

contemplated how watersheds are part of the Kingdom of God and how we should protect these wild parts of God's creation.

Gina's Orchard programs are not limited to children. Intergenerational or adult groups can benefit as well. For more information about how Gina's Orchard can enhance your program contact Jack Dowling at 707-433-2440 x118 or ranchprg@sonic.net.

THE *abundant table*

Recipes from The Bishop's Ranch kitchen

SPINACH AND BACON BREAD PUDDING WITH *lemon infusion*

This recipe is truly a team collaboration. It all started with Kandie Sims bringing in the original inception and the rest of us tweaking it from there. Extra filling can be baked in a Pyrex pan. Enjoy!

For the lemon infusion:

- ½ cup lemon juice
- ½ cup olive oil
- 1 teaspoons lemon extract
- 2 teaspoons lemon zest

For the filling:

- 1 two-pound loaf of sourdough bread
- 2 cups milk
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup Fontina cheese, grated
- ¼ cup Parmesan cheese, grated
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 cups fresh spinach, rough chopped
- 1½ cups cooked bacon, chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste

Preheat oven to 350°F.

To prepare the lemon infusion, combine and gently warm the liquid ingredients. Add the zest and remove from the heat.

Slice off the top of the loaf and scoop the crumb from inside, leaving the shell of the bread intact. Set the crumb aside. Brush the hollowed out loaf with the lemon infusion, reserving about ⅓ cup. Place the bread on a baking sheet and toast in the oven for 10 minutes.

In a large bowl combine all the remaining ingredients except the bacon. Allow mixture to soak for 30 to 60 minutes. Stir in the bacon and fill the toasted loaf. Bake for 35 to 40 minutes until the eggs are cooked or the internal temperature reaches 145°F. Cut into pieces and serve immediately.

MAKES 6 TO 8 SERVINGS

Ministry Funding

from page 1

We are preparing for another year of providing this unique natural setting where renewal of spirit, mind and body can occur in a way that fosters individual growth and strengthens community.

There is an exciting matching grant opportunity for the Partnership Fund. This fund was established in 1993 to make the benefits of a Ranch visit open to all, regardless of financial means. Since then, hundreds of people have used the fund to participate in a retreat at the Ranch. The emphasis is on ensuring that children under 18 are able to attend events at the Ranch--either accompanying their parents or for special events for children or youth.

The Maria Kip Orphanage Foundation has granted \$10,000 to the Ranch Partnership Fund this year, and has offered a \$10,000 matching grant if an additional \$10,000 is raised for scholarships. This dollar-for-dollar match doubles the value of your gift to the Partnership Fund. A gift or pledge now will help us reach this goal.

We ask that you consider supporting this special place through a gift to the Partnership Fund or one of these other areas that strengthen our ministry:

- The Ranch Improvement Fund helps support basic Ranch operation and provides needed equipment for maintenance, kitchen and housekeeping. Examples of Improvement Fund items: pillows; a juicer and a blender for the kitchen, replacing a roof, or new mattresses to replace older ones around the Ranch.

- The Gina's Orchard Watershed Education Program is a way for people to experience the wonder and mystery of nature while deepening knowledge about complex elements of a watershed. The unique setting of the Ranch is an ideal place for children to learn stewardship of nature, have fun together, and return refreshed to their classroom, with a strengthened sense of their place in the world. Gina's Orchard programs require financial assistance for supplies and environmental educators.

- Large capital improvements such as refurbishing the St. Stephen's Youth Village or renovating the pool and pool house cannot be completed from our operations budget.

Thank you so much for your support and your understanding that the Ranch is self-supporting, and independent of the Diocesan budget. The direct daily costs of operating the Ranch are paid with guest fees, but the full cost of maintaining the Ranch and providing its programs and services is much higher than the income generated by those fees. Donations make up the difference between fee income and the actual cost of stewardship. Donations provide the funds for capital improvements, major repairs, scholarships and program support. Without your generous contributions, the Ranch would not be able to continue to be "a place where lives are changed" for all members of our community. Please think on the many ways that people benefit from the Ranch and send a pledge or gift to support our mission of providing this place of renewal.

Planning Study Keeps Us in Touch

Many people participated in a planning study this last spring, providing the Ranch with valuable information for moving forward with services, programs and projects. Thank you to all planning study participants. Over 170 people turned in written questionnaires and 50 additional people met with Episcopal Church Foundation consultant, Martin Thomas, who collected the data and reported his findings to the Board of Directors. In his remarks Martin noted that the story of the Ranch is a bit like the story of the blind men and the elephant. Everyone experiences it in a unique way, but people's understanding of the many ways in which the Ranch is used may be limited. Among the many observations:

- The Ranch is a place of retreat and renewal, but the experiences are personal and it was difficult for most people to convey the Ranch's ministry in a broad sense.
- A stay at the Ranch is the ideal communication tool.
- Other ways to help people "connect" with the Ranch's ministry are needed such as website upgrade and a video component.

- The Swing Pavilion Project is unsettling to people in that they are unclear that the Ranch will remain a low-key retreat center when it is completed.
- For some people the "green" building aspects of the Swing Pavilion are wonderful. For others they are a distraction from understanding its use.

Many good ideas and helpful information came out of the study. For example, one idea is to have a "Ranch Ambassador" at each parish in the diocese to help share information with people in the parishes and to help Ranch staff stay connected to events in the parishes. These people can help with parish retreat planning and keep the lines of communication open. This idea has taken root, and a number of people in the diocese have already taken on ambassador roles at their parish. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in acting as a Ranch Ambassador, please contact Sarah McGowan 707-433-2440 ex.105 for an ambassador job description. Also, visit the website www.bishopsranch.org for more information about the Ranch.

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2009 Reservations at the Ranch

Groups of the Episcopal Diocese of California may make reservations on the 2009 calendar by submitting an application to The Bishop's Ranch by December 1, 2007. Application packets were mailed to parishes and group leaders in September, 2007. If you did not receive an information packet, please call the reservations coordinator (707-433-2440 x102) and we will mail or email one to you.

All other groups are welcome to contact the reservations coordinator about the 2009 calendar beginning February 1, 2008.



If you would like to bring a group earlier than 2009, some dates are still available in 2007 and 2008. Occasional cancellations make it a good policy to call if you are planning a conference or retreat.

For information about reservations at St. Dorothy's Rest call 707-874-3319.

Quote from a grateful guest:

"Great big thank yous to you and all the Ranch Staff for making our stay this past weekend so pleasurable, renewing and uplifting. You all do such a wonderful job in such a low-key manner - it is simply amazing."

- Bill Crisick
St. Stephen's, Orinda