

Coming Home

News from The Bishop's Ranch

Fall 2011

From the Executive Director

Related by Water

In my hand, the wood of the paddle is light but strong. In my nose, the sharp odor of wet sand and willow roots startles me, full of childhood associations. The kayaks and canoes are on the shore and pointed across the river current. Pushing out and carefully stepping in, a boat becomes a hole in the water that we occupy. Dipping my paddle in the water, I think of the entire river, urgent with gravity, from the headwaters in the mountains northeast of Ukiah to the windy mouth at Jenner. One thousand five hundred square miles of land - I sense the whole winding length of it in a sudden instant - the relation, through water, to all that live in or along the flowing water, drink from its gravelly aquifer, grow crops in its floodplain, live in hidden tents or proud mansions along its banks, fight about proper water use or the shape of the channel, to those who simply celebrate it. All are related by water, by the necessity of it, by its presence in everything alive, though some urge often rises to separate and contain.

In the launched craft, I come back to myself and glance at my companions. I see with relief they haven't noticed my untimely river daydream. When a small group of us from St. Dorothy's and the Ranch launched these little boats in July, we gave ourselves over to a realm of larger forces, where wind and current and sun act directly and unarguably against body and boat. Now, we must pay attention: the first little run below us is tricky, past some sharp rocks and under a low brige. This is EcoPilgrimage, giving over to larger forces, with faith.



Along the Russian River during the EcoPilgrimage

Winter rain falling on the redwood-clothed hills of St. Dorothy's Rest flows into nearby Dutch Bill Creek and north through a beautiful valley into the Russian river near Monte Rio. Likewise, rain falling onto the oak woodlands of The Bishop's Ranch finds its way into Turtle Creek, shaded by oak, bay and ash trees, and flows east into the river not far away. Downstream, the waters mingle, as does the mission of the two centers. This little trip (see page 2 for more information), inspired by Bishop Marc, was a three-day physical exploration of our outer and inner relatedness through water. On the third afternoon, struggling against the wind, the little boats reached river's end. Since we had arrived by boat rather than car, our beloved and well-loved ocean looked different to our eyes. We stood and watched the river combine with the sea.

At its best, the Ranch is a place of relatedness. Through sharing meals, hikes, swims, learning, worship, thoughts, laughter and dreams, we discover and renew our connections. I hope you'll come visit your relations at the Ranch (or St. Dorothy's) soon, with your church or organized group. Or, come on your own to attend one of the programs offered by the Ranch (see page 8) or on individual retreat. Since our theme for this year is clearly water, please read about the renovation of the Ranch swimming pool on page 4.

Sincerely,

Sean Swift

What's Inside?

EcoPilgrimagepage 2
 Pool Area Renovationpage 4

Staff Newspage 6
 Recipe from "The Abundant Table"page 8

The Bishop's Ranch Staff
Executive Director
Sean Swift

Office

Cacilia Dale
Jack Dowling
Mark Fassett
Andrea Foote
Sarah McGowan
Shannon Reilly
Caroline Draper Swift

Programs

The Rev. Patricia Moore
Lisa Marie Thorpe

Buildings and Gardens

Thor Bjornestad
Jack "Cass" Grimes
Rick Kaye
Giovanni Rauda
Brendan Swift
Ivan Thorpe
Jake Wade
Doug Wade

Housekeeping

Concepción Conde
Maria González
Susana Gutierrez
Josefina Lopez
Veronica Navarro Guerrero
Cuca Padilla
Carolina Sandoval
Adriana Villafuerte

Kitchen

Melanie Berry
Hannah Bucher
Kandie Faurot
Miguel Gutierrez
Hannah Klisura
Robin Miller
Pedro Morales
Eleanor Nichols
Rosálva Nuno Aguirrea
Sam Ojebola
Robert Olsen

Employees are listed in their primary work group. Several work in more than one function.

Coming Home

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

Send correspondence and address corrections to:
The Bishop's Ranch
Coming Home
5297 Westside Road
Healdsburg, CA 95448
Tel. 707-433-2440
Fax. 707-433-3431
email: info@bishopsranch.org
www.bishopsranch.org

The First EcoPilgrimage - by Brendan Swift

The first EcoPilgrimage, a canoe and kayak journey on the Russian River organized by St. Dorothy's Rest and The Bishop's Ranch, was held in mid-July. This first year's pilgrims – a sort of scouting party to lay the groundwork for future trips – were mostly staff from the two retreat centers, both of which lie in the watershed of the Russian. For next summer, we hope that adult guests looking for a deeper connection to water and land will join us on the pilgrimage.

The three-day journey began here at the Ranch with a gathering and prayer circle, then followed the Middle Reach of the Russian from downtown Healdsburg to Forestville. This stretch, though it winds through mile after mile of vineyard, is surrounded by dense, rich riparian forest, offering paddlers a good sense of this distinct California habitat.

The second day took us through the redwood forests of the lower Russian, a popular vacation area. We were then shuttled to a campground not far from the river mouth, and the third day was spent exploring the estuary, admiring the abundant life and gorgeous views, and finally arriving at the edge of the ocean. The journey was brought to an end at St. Dorothy's with a hot meal and a closing circle.

The paddling is certainly work, but I at least found it rewarding and not too strenuous. The Russian is a great river for paddlers of any level. Tips on canoe and kayak technique were provided by some of our more experienced boaters.

Along the way, there was plenty of time for resting, swimming, and exploring. Thanks to Caroline Draper Swift, we ate very well. We had lots of interesting conversation, as people shared their ideas and experiences, their knowledge of local wildlife, geology, and history – especially the history of development and conservation on the Russian. We had a small library for browsing at the campsites, and Sean Swift read excerpts from some favorite literature on rivers and river life, including *Totem Salmon*, by Freeman House. There was singing by the fire at night, and I think each of



The first intrepid EcoPilgrims



Sam & Andrea on the Russian River

us felt blessed by good company.

The EcoPilgrimage is first and foremost a river trip, but it is much more than that, too. We did not intend this journey as just an adventure, or even simply a good time, although neither of these things were in short supply. We were there to let ourselves adjust to the ways of water – the lifeblood of the planet – and so to gain a fresh view of the land we live in, the vital place of water in it, and the place of ourselves in the whole of creation.



Like any pilgrims from any religion, we were on a journey to connect more deeply to what we believe in. It's a chance to let the lessons we've learned – social, spiritual, environmental – sink in and truly become part of us.

Next year's EcoPilgrimage is scheduled for the week of July 8th, 2012. If you are interested in joining or would like to know more about the trip, please contact Shannon Reilly at shannon@bishopsranch.org or call 707-433-2440 x 106



Jenner, where the Russian River meets the Pacific

Quilting & Cooking - by Eleanor Nichols

I have been cooking in the Bishop's Ranch kitchen for 18 years. If you are reading this, you have probably eaten a pancake, a cookie, or some soup or casserole that I made just for you. I have always appreciated the atmosphere of this kitchen, the flow of work, the fast pace of a busy day, and the camaraderie and support of my colleagues.

For the last five years, I have been a part of another community here at the Ranch. Twice a year, I join 40 other women for four days of marathon quilting during the Ranch Hands retreat. It's a remarkable group of women, all working on their own projects, enjoying the time to relax into their creativity, and enjoying each other. I was a beginning quilter when I came into this retreat, wildly intimidated by the honed talents of experienced quilters with diverse skills. But everyone was so welcoming to me, and it didn't hurt at all that they knew I worked in the kitchen. I had an in.

Being here as a guest has given me a larger perspective on both the Ranch and what I do here. As I sit in the Swing Pavilion and quietly sew, I appreciate the beauty and functionality of all the details that went

into the construction and planning of the Ranch's newest building. I enjoy the spaciousness and beauty of the grounds and the view. When mealtime arrives, I am astonished by the abundance of the buffet table. As the kitchen staff replenish platters and answer questions, it looks so effortless. And I know that it is not.

In both quilting and cooking, there is the same endless repetition of actions over and over again. Cut. Sew. Press. Slice. Stir. Taste. These moments of quiet repetition become a meditative practice and allow space for inspiration and magic to happen. And, when you are doing this with a group of people who are all doing the same thing in the same space, the force and power is magnified. It is a privilege to be a part of both of these communities. *See page 8 for dates of upcoming Ranch Quilt Retreat.*



Eleanor at work

A Deep Settled Peace in My Soul - by Legacy Circle Member Caroline De Catur Putnam

I was up at the Ranch recently and, walking through Gina's Orchard, I noticed an ancient apple tree, growing nearly horizontal. From an otherwise lifeless, gnarled trunk sprang a single strand of lovely blossoms. As I think about Easter with its message of death and renewal, I take this symbol to heart.

Recently, I turned 44, and I decided this year I would try to remove unnecessary stress from my life. With Christopher's help and a template from Nolo Press, I wrote up my will, had it signed and witnessed at the Ranch, and gave it to Sarah McGowan at the Ranch, for safekeeping. Now I can feel that "deep settled peace in my soul." What a great birthday gift. What a relief to have this Lenten discipline project finally complete. I breathe in the incredible vista from Hawk Hill and know that someday I will become one with this earth and that my resources will help others experience the solace and renewal of the Ranch.

As always, the Ranch has necessary changes in the works. The lower lake needs its entire surface skimmed to remove an invasive weed. Webb Lodge needs exterior paint. The poison oak along the Lake Trail needs to be uprooted. The community garden will need tending. Staff and volunteers all pitch in to do this work and much more, but none of it comes for free.

Today my small gifts to the Ranch help with these projects. Over time my gift will be like that apple tree, creating opportunities for fruition, hopefully a long time hence.

I recommend the Nolo Wills Book, so you can create your own will without hiring an attorney. And when you do, I hope that as you remember your parish in your estate plans, you will also help The Bishop's Ranch in its constant renewal for future generations.



Caroline De Catur Putnam

The Bishop's Ranch Board of Directors

Chairman of the Board,
The Rt. Rev. Marc Handley Andrus
Diocese of California

President, Nigel Heath
St. John's, Ross

Vice President, Judy Harris
Epiphany, San Carlos

Treasurer, Lyn Klein
St. John's, Ross

Secretary, Christopher Lewis
St. John's, Ross

Kathleen S. Anderson
St. Mary the Virgin,
San Francisco

Lloyd W. Aubry
St. Paul's, Burlingame

Kay Bishop
St. Luke's, San Francisco

Bente A. Carter
St. Francis, San Francisco

Sheri Barden Coholan
St. Mary the Virgin,
San Francisco

David R. Forbes
Grace Cathedral

Jim Forsyth
Diocese of California

Jack Klemeyer
St. Luke's, San Francisco

Gary Lawrence
Church of the Resurrection,
Pleasant Hill

The Rev. Susan Parsons
St. Francis of Assisi, Novato

Sheila Cunningham Sims
St. Paul's, Oakland

Janess Slaby
Church of the Incarnation,
Santa Rosa

Sean Swift
The Bishop's Ranch

The Bishop's Ranch Pool Area Renovation

For 63 years the Ranch swimming pool has been providing refreshment to people of all ages. Children have learned to swim there, courtships have begun there and countless people have enjoyed the sun and relaxing moments in the water. The pool was built by the White family in 1930. It is now over 80 years old and regularly



Pool area circa 1960

being used beyond its capacity. Each year it is more difficult and expensive for the pool and poolhouse to pass the health department inspection. It is now time for renovation of the pool area at The Bishop's Ranch.

New larger pool and deck area needed by summer 2012:

- The structures of the pool, deck and pool houses are failing.
- Current pool design not best for small children.
- Existing pool does not meet the needs of current pool use.



The Pool remodel design includes features which make the area more accessible, safer, sustainable, and fun:

- Gradual slope to provide better swim instruction areas and possible lap swim area for adults.
- Roomier shallow areas to safely accommodate very young children.



- Handicapped access to all pool areas.
- Additional bathrooms and showers will be added to the St John's Meeting House.
- An area of deep water will allow diving and space for much-loved camp games like "Dibble."

Energy efficient and green features being considered in the design:

- A solar heating system to extend the use period of the pool to spring through fall. There are also opportunities to include solar panels that generate electricity.
- A new filtering system that uses saltwater, which is environmentally kinder and easier on the skin.
- Less water will be used overall, even in a larger pool as a result of depth changes and safety upgrades.

One believer in the pool's contribution to the ministry of the hospitality at the Ranch generously donated

\$100,000 to kick-off the pool area campaign. To date, the effort to fundraise for the pool area renovation has gained



tremendous support with over \$400,000 raised and enough cash on hand to break ground in October. The goal is a new pool in place for next summer. Please support the pool area renovation today! Give

online securely with PayPal or explore other options on the "Support Us" page at bishopsranch.org. We gratefully accept checks, credit cards and gifts of stock. Use the enclosed envelope and mark "Pool Area" on your gift or pledge. Feel free to contact Sarah McGowan in the Advancement Office anytime, 707-433-2440 x105. Thank you for helping to build our new pool.

"Thinking I was alone at the pool one Saturday morning, April 9, 1949, I dove in to swim laps. After a bit Barbara and I bumped into each other accidentally. We spent the rest of the youth conference talking. Later that weekend we returned to our respective lives forever changed ~ I was pursuing a Master's at Stanford University and she was in nursing at Mills Hospital. We were married 53 years, have 4 children, 10 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren."

*~ Mr. Claude Bloom,
St. Michael's and All Angel's, Concord*

How you can help

Each friend of The Bishop's Ranch is encouraged to prayerfully consider a gift that will make it possible for us to better serve pool area guests, enhance the retreat experience, and build a new pool by next summer. Sample gift distribution essential for raising the remaining approximately \$300,000 needed:

Gift Size	# Needed	Cumul. Total	Monthly*
\$75,000	1	\$75,000	\$2,778
\$50,000	1	\$125,000	\$1,389
\$25,000	2	\$175,000	\$694
\$10,000	4	\$215,000	\$278
\$5,000	8	\$255,000	\$139
\$2,000	10	\$275,000	\$56
\$1,000	20	\$295,000	\$28
<\$500	many	Goal Met!	

* Monthly payments for a 3-year pledge

Tending our Past, Building our Future - 2011 Annual Fund



As a place of rest and renewal, the Ranch strives to be like water for the thirsty soul. There are countless ways people have this intangible experience ~ a conversation, a worship service, a quiet moment examining the land, a realization or idea filtering up, a group activity, a shared meal. Each person experiences the benefits of retreat in a unique way.

The Ranch continues to be a place of renewal for individuals, families and communities because of the care and attention paid to details. Group volunteers work tirelessly to organize programs, Ranch staff work continuously to maintain buildings and grounds, to cook food, and to prepare for a guest's visit. As just one, small example, the firewood used to stock fireplaces in the winter takes all spring and summer to gather and chop from the land, another year to dry, and then it must be hauled to all the buildings for guests to use to make bright, warm oases in the winter. There are many, subtle ways the Ranch may quench a thirsty soul. An outstanding location and climate, delicious and healthy meals, clean and comfortable meeting and sleeping accommodations, and a low-key staff presence allow guests to enter into the life of the place. The Ranch belongs to all visitors, and its ministry touches each person in a different way.

We are preparing for another year of providing this unique, natural setting where renewal of the spirit, mind and body occurs in a way to foster individual growth and strengthen community. Gifts to the Annual Fund are an indispensable part of the operations budget and the continued success of the Ranch ministry. Guest fees are kept intentionally low in order to make the Ranch available to as many people as possible; therefore, guest fees do not cover the entire cost of a person's experience at the Ranch. Support in the form of financial contributions is essential in order to cover the day-to-day costs of a person's experience at the Ranch. The Annual Fund has a direct and immediate impact on the quality of each guest's visit.

A gift to the Annual Fund means that the Ranch remains a place of rest, relaxation and refreshment for all who visit. Our goal this year is to raise \$150,000 from 475 households to balance the operations budget. To date we are on our way with \$122,807 raised from 360 supporters. We hope every member of The Bishop's Ranch community will make it a philanthropic priority. Give at a level that is meaningful for you. Please use the enclosed envelope to make a contribution today.

Contributors to the 2011 Annual Fund whose gifts or pledge payments are received by December 31, 2011 are listed by giving group in the Annual Fund Report, which will be published after January 1, 2012.

Legacy Circle is launched during Acorn Society Forum

*"The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn."
-Ralph W. Emerson*

Over 60 people gathered on July 30th, 2011 for the fourth Annual Forum of The Ranch Acorn Society. Many arrived on Friday night and joined in a lovely hymn sing with musician and composer Christopher Putnam. On Saturday morning there were interesting and lively tours of grey water projects, the community garden, and the kitchen, each led by Ranch staff. The forum began with a presentation by Bishop Marc, entitled *The Theology of Water*. Sean Swift, Nigel Heath and Jan Slaby updated us on Ranch accomplishments and challenges, including the pool area renovation. Free time in the afternoon allowed people to swim, hike in Gina's Orchard, or participate in a tour of our local Acorn Winery. The forum concluded with a special evensong and dedication of The Bishop's Ranch Legacy Circle.

We were pleased and honored to inaugurate The Legacy Circle, a society made up of members who wish to support and strengthen the future ministry of this special place by recognizing The Bishop's Ranch in their will or estate plan. The Ranch was delighted to launch this Legacy Circle with the inauguration of its 44 founding members at a beautiful ceremony. These once-in-a-lifetime planned gifts will play a crucial role in ensuring the continued work of the Ranch. The Legacy Circle provides a unique way for those who love the Ranch to give to future generations and know that the Ranch will continue as a place where lives are changed.

It was a lovely, sunny, summer day, and the social hour in the Ranch House courtyard was delightful. A champagne toast to the newly formed Legacy Circle completed our celebration of this important event. Dinner was delicious and complimented by wines donated by the Nachbaur family of Acorn Winery. A beautiful Taizé service in the Chapel brought the day's activities to a close. Sunday morning, those remaining celebrated the Eucharist in St. George's Chapel. Bishop Marc presided at the service and gave a moving sermon. A Ranch Board meeting was held after the Eucharist, and the retreat concluded after lunch.

Thanks to all who attended the forum and to those who



Acorn Society, Ranch Board and friends, July 2011

worked to make it a success. The next forum date is set for June 30th, 2012 and we're looking forward to another great event.

The Acorn Society, with the Board of Directors, has become a central part of the ongoing advancement of The Bishop's Ranch. They support, inform others in the diocese about, and help care for The Bishop's Ranch. For more information about the Acorn Society or the Legacy Circle, contact Sarah McGowan at sarah@bishopsranch.org or 707-433-2440 x105.

St. James Youth Group Expands Kitchen Garden - by Rick Kaye



St. James Youth Group digs into the garden

Teens with tools converged upon The Bishop's Ranch, skirting rainstorms in June, to start a vegetable garden. The unusual weather proved little barrier to a hard-working and industrious youth group from St. James Episcopal Church in San Francisco, who spent a week completing this service project with our maintenance crew. By week's end, the group expanded a 100-square foot "double-dig" garden plot into a 1,000 square foot groomed garden. The teens laid the foundation for a kitchen garden on the land, trenching water lines, working compost into the soil, shaping the growing beds, and transplanting starts. Corn, Swiss chard, zucchini, yellow squash, broccoli, cauliflower, pole beans, tomatoes, and tomatillos are now in full production. These crops are beginning to show up in the delicious meals served at The Ranch.

The idea of a kitchen garden at The Bishop's Ranch is not new. The tradition began in the 1970's when Alan Chadwick established the garden beds mentioned in The Bishop's Ranch cookbook. Alan Chadwick is credited as the founder of the Biodynamic/French Intensive Gardening Method that has revolutionized gardening around the globe, and led to the development of the UC Santa Cruz Center for AgroEcology and Farming Apprentice Program. One of his students is John Jeavons, who in turn founded the BioIntensive Method.

As a member of the maintenance staff, I became interested in creating a vegetable garden at The Bishop's Ranch to produce food and provide education about sustainable gardening. Between 1997-2000, I was fortunate enough to co-manage a sustainable farm while serving as a Peace Corps volunteer abroad, and I have looked to create "teaching gardens" ever since. Last fall, I invited my friend Stephan Stehling to help.

Stephan led a workshop on BioIntensive Gardening, which is a

result of his apprenticeship under John Jeavons. He left behind a 5 foot by 20 foot garden bed using the double-dig method of gardening captured in Jeavons's *How to Grow More Vegetables on Less Land Than You Can Imagine*. The bed was maintained by our caretaker, Cass, throughout the winter. By spring, the staff endorsed a larger expansion of the garden. Enter St. James Youth Group. The Bishop's Ranch garden has returned, renewing its own history.

Today, a windrow (long row) of



Checking their progress

compost sits at the upslope side of the garden, awaiting our next volunteer group. With a few willing hands, we can double the current garden size to 2,000 square feet, and produce more food for the kitchen and guests at the Ranch. If this activity interests you, please contact us and we will set up a service project during your next stay.

The Bishop's Ranch Staff News - by Shannon Reilly

New Staff Members

We have new part-time staff members in four different departments. Andrea Foote is our Operations Intern, Veronica (Vero) Navarro Guerrero is our new Assistant Housekeeping Coordinator. Our newest dishwasher (and neighbor) is Miguel Gutierrez. Joining The Bishop's Ranch maintenance crew are Thor Bjornestad, Giovanni Rauda, Brendan Swift, Jake Wade and Ivan Thorpe.



Thor, Veronica and Giovanni

Graduations

Congratulations to our latest Ranch family members to earn college degrees. Brendan Swift, long-time Ranch resident and part-time maintenance crewmember, graduated from UC Berkeley this past May, with highest honors and a B.A. in linguistics. He is currently staying close to home, playing music, and looking into acquiring a certificate to teach English as a second language. He is interested in teaching in a variety of countries. Brendan will travel to Turkey for two months this November, where he has the opportunity to housesit on a small farm.

Quinn Moticka, daughter of our Kitchen Manager, Robin Miller, graduated from the University of Oregon this past June. Quinn majored in journalism, with an emphasis in

electronic media and a minor in business. As of this September, she is working as an intern for Goodby, Silverstein & Partners in San Francisco.

Spiritual Hospitality

Back in 2009, Executive Director Sean Swift, along with our chaplain, The Rev. Pat Moore, began to develop a volunteer Prayer Resident position to further foster the spiritual offerings of The Bishop's Ranch. Since early 2010 and throughout this year, we have been blessed to welcome several individuals as temporary residential volunteer staff, here to serve the Ranch guests by leading our regular morning and evening prayer services.

Laurie Glover shined as our Prayer Resident this summer. In addition to leading the daily services, she helped

continued on page 7

continued from page 6

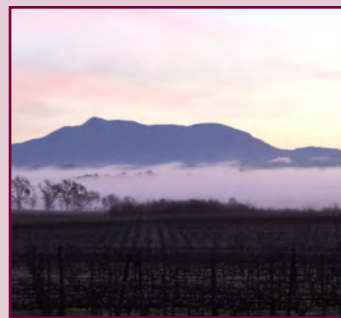
with many projects around the Ranch, from picking produce for the kitchen to cleaning and repainting our entrance sign and many trail signs. Laurie, who has a Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate School, is a poet, essayist and novelist published in such journals as *Women's Studies*, *ZYZZYVA*, and *Nimrod International Quarterly*. Laurie has been teaching writing since 1990, at UC Davis since 1997, and has facilitated artists' and writers' retreats and workshops since 2001. Laurie has been a lay worship leader at St Gregory of Nyssa in San Francisco for the last two years.

Our newest Prayer Resident, James (Jamie) Knutsen, is a Sonoma County native and a priest of the Diocese of Northern California. From 1998 to 2003, he was rector of Saint Michael and All Angels, Fort Bragg, after which he spent two years exploring monastic life as a novice in the Society of Saint

John the Evangelist in Massachusetts. Since 2006, Jamie has focused on developing his ministry as a spiritual director, and on Sunday supply ministry. He is affiliated as an assisting priest at Church of the Incarnation, Santa Rosa. In addition to his current ministry as Prayer Resident, Jamie is serving as a small group facilitator with the Sacred Journey program at Mercy Center, Burlingame, and is beginning in the Pierre Favre program at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Los Altos, a three-year formation program in giving the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola. Jamie will be with us at the Ranch through this December.

If you are interested in taking part in the spiritual life at The Bishop's Ranch, there are volunteer Prayer Resident opportunities available from January through May of 2012. For further information, email Pat Moore at revpat@bishopsranch.org.

Guest Reflection



"...several times throughout these fifty years I thought about returning to the Ranch, but I never went back because I was afraid that time and progress might have changed everything.... When I arrived (August 2011)...I was overwhelmed with joy to find that it retains all of the beauty, the peacefulness, the charm, the feeling, and most of all the spirit of what it was 50 years ago."

Idamaria Knights
Trinity, Menlo Park

Chapel Life - by The Rev. Patricia Moore

"Let the trees be consulted before you take any action- every time you breathe in thank a tree"

~ excerpt from a poem by John Wright

This summer, the community that worships in St. George's Chapel enjoyed several special services and events. Bishop Marc Andrus preached and celebrated on a Sunday in July. It was wonderful to have him with us. The Grace Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys was with us for two Sundays



Rev. Pat Moore blesses trees

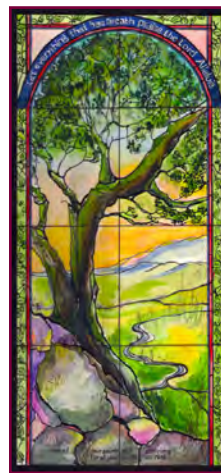
in August (always a treat), and on the last Sunday of the month we blessed the redwood groves in the corner of the parking lot. Some of these trees have been donated and planted to honor various people important in the life of the Ranch. Two groves were given to honor John Weaver, whose spiritual

presence is still felt by many who worship in the chapel.

Others have been given to honor Jim Brown, Dick and Patty Ford, Dwight and Rosi Edwards, Bishop Block, Sean and Caroline Swift, and Anna Wilson. More trees were given by the chapel community and are undesignated, but given simply in gratitude. It was a beautiful day, and we enjoyed walking in the groves, imagining what they will look like as the trees grow up, and talking about the gift of trees. On September 11, we held a special contemplative service. Marv and Nancy Hiles led us in chant helping to deepen the silence we shared.

Ranch daily prayers were led by Laurie Glover during August and much of July. In September we welcomed Jamie Knutsen as prayer resident for the remainder of this calendar year. When you come to the Ranch please feel free to join us in worship either at morning and evening prayer or for our Sunday Eucharist.

Diocesan Window Update



Many of you have seen the beautiful new stained glass windows by artist Irmi Steding that grace the Chapel of St. George and recount passages from the Cantic of the Sun. If you have not seen them, please take time to visit the chapel on your next retreat. Did you know there is one window left to install at the chapel? The window on the stairs to the choir loft is designated as the Diocesan Window. To date, 15 generous individuals have donated a total of \$1,890 toward the \$10,000 cost. The artist's drawing of the proposed window is included here. Please consider a gift to the Diocesan Window to complete the installation at the Chapel. Thank you!

Jesus Sightings at Camp - by Jack Dowling

Jesus one, Jesus one

Let's all have some Jesus fun!

This line from the popular "Jesus Jive" (see YouTube) sums up the camps presented by the Ranch this summer, where over 300 people explored the life of Jesus through program, and experienced the pleasure of living in community.

For Music Camp, the first camp of the summer, Music Director Myrna Owens created an original musical theater program that imagined Jesus' life as a young person.



Music Camp

Campers created sets and choreographed dances for the week's culminating performance.

Fifty families participated in our two intergenerational camps, Family Camp and Generations.

Families shared time together in worship, art, music and active play, strengthening their family



Family Camp



Generations Camp

bonds, and creating relationships with other families.

Sr High BREAD campers listened to gospel stories, adapted to contemporary language by chaplain Austin Leinenger. Through Jesus' stories, campers then explored themes of expectation, friendship, temptation, betrayal, forgiveness and resurrection, then discussed the relevance of those themes in their own lives. Jr High BREAD chaplain Sylvia Miller-Mutia wrote this rap to sum up the week:



Sr High BREAD

*"It's all about Jesus" some people say,
But who's this Jesus guy anyway?
Dead, far away and long ago
or someone real we could get to know?
We come to BREAD camp from near and far
to find who he is and who we are*

*It's Je-e-e-e-sus!"
It was a great
summer! We have
room for you to come*

experience our great camps next summer.

Check our website for dates:

www.bishopsranch.org



Jr High BREAD

Upcoming Ranch Programs

- Silent Days in Advent
12/9-16/2011
- Benedictine Weekend
12/16-18/2011
- Epiphany Day with Bishop Marc
1/7/2012
- Encaustic Collage,
Creative Exploration
1/20-22/2012
- Enneagram Workshop
2/4/2012
- The Bishop's Ranch Quilt Retreat
2/12-16/2012

For more information check out our website at www.bishopsranch.org or contact Shannon Reilly at Shannon@bishopsranch.org or (707) 433-2440 x106.

From *the abundant table* - Recipes from The Bishop's Ranch Kitchen

fresh pear CAKE

Serves 12-18

- 1 cup coarsely chopped walnuts
- 2 cups unbleached flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 2 cups brown sugar
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 4 cups pears, peeled and cut into 1/2 in. cubes

This simple, homey dessert can be dressed up with a sprinkling of confectioner's sugar and served with vanilla ice cream or whipped cream on the side. It is a moist cake that keeps for days in the refrigerator. It can also be made with apples.

Preheat oven to 325 degrees

Toast walnuts at 325 degrees for 10 to 15 minutes, until they have a slightly roasted flavor. Rub them with a towel to remove some of the bitter skins. Prepare the pears.

Sift together the flour, baking soda, salt, and cinnamon and set aside. In a bowl large enough to hold all the batter, beat the eggs, sugars, water, vanilla, and oil. Then add the flour mixture and nuts. When thoroughly mixed, add the pears and stir just to blend.

Pour into a greased 9-by-13-by-2- inch pan and bake at 325 degrees for 65 to 75 minutes. The cake should have pulled away from the edge of the pan. It should appear moist but not wet. Serve with vanilla ice cream or softly whipped cream, slightly sweetened.

For more great recipes, get a copy of
the abundant table
at www.bishopsranch.org/cookbook.html

GIFTS TO THE RANCH

IN HONOR OF THE MARRIAGE OF
THE REV. SCOTT L. DENMAN &
KENDACE O'DONNELL DENMAN

Marion Barnes
Holly Bazeley
Don and Lone Beeson
The Rt. Rev. Barry Beisner and Ms. Ann Hallisey
Mrs. Corwin Booth
Tom and Margaret Bowman
David and Carol Brown
Barbara H. Cadwalader
Stephen and Karen Clayton
Ray Craun and Carol Kizziah
Catherine Crocker
Robert and Sandra Davidson
Susan DeSemet
Paul and Marilyn Ehrenkrook
Tino and Patty Enebrad and Lois Enegrad
Gordon and Nancy Everett
Ken Fuller
Gilbert and Karen Gleason
Camilla Hill
James and Virginia Hoelter
Norman and Sarah Jones
The Rev. Dr. John Kater
Arnell Kilian
Jennifer and Andy Kitt

Jim and Laura Kroger
David Knight
Anne Landstrom
Jan Lewis
Dane and Lisa Martin
Dan and Kathy Martin
Christine McQueen and family
John and Karen Medford
Susan Merrill
Anne Ware Meyer
Theodore and Barbara Milhous
Kathy Nelson
Donald Owen
Sharon Parham
Susan Pierpoint
Ron and Joanne Richards
Sally O. Rix
Charles Robinson and Victoria Hill Robinson
Willow and Rowan Rowntree
George Rutherford
Nancy Sears
Mark and Julianna Slater
Kellor, Scott, Abby and Evan Smith
Mark Stafford
Peter H. Stafford
Don and Debi Stebbins
Nancy Swearengen
Arlene Fischhoff and Rich Trevor
Dewey and Susan Watson
Mary E. Wilson



IN HONOR OF THE 55TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY OF MR. ARTHUR C.
AND THE REV. DR. FRAN TOY

Drs. Tami and Mark Van Cleve
The Vincent Kwong family
Wilson and Lena Leong
Richard and Jeanne Pon
Mrs. Carl C. Toy
Glendon Toy
Christopher and Mozhddeh Wong
Mr. Gum Wong
Ms. Donna Yee

GIFTS GIVEN TO THE RANCH IN MEMORY, HONOR OR THANKSGIVING

Kay Barratt in honor of the ministry of
The Rev. Sally Boelter

Susan Bergesen in memory of Ollie cat

Elaine W. Betts in memory of
Darby W. Betts

Dorothy W. Buechy in memory of
Werner H. Buechy

Caroline York Chisum in memory of
O. Clarke Chisum

Dorothy Dent in memory of
William E. Dent

Ms. Randa Jacobs in fond memory of
Dale Swanson

Linda and Victor Gavenda in honor of
Emma Victoria Gavenda

Robert E. Gilchrist in memory of
Gay Kenny

Barbara B. Girard in memory of
Brandon Avery Girard

The Rev. and Mrs. David E. Green in
memory of Margaret Bednarski, of
Good Shepherd, Berkeley

Cynthia Harper in honor of children

Beverly Vaughn Hock in memory of
Louise Vaughn

Dede and Rex Jamison in honor of
The Rev. Richard Ford

Steven and Malaney Johnides in
honor of Everett and Gloria Powell

Mary Kelley in honor of Susan Rose

Anna Klay in memory of
Amber Rose Hendry

James and Eileen Ludwig in honor of
Bill and Mary Swing

Jim and Margaret in memory of
Audrey Enderlin

Jerry and Claire McCleery in honor
of Bland W. Cannon, Esq

Timothy and Alice Pidgeon in honor
of Chris Rankin-Williams' sabbatical

Connie and Frank Prim in memory
of Lori Bond-Keech

Lenore Ralston in honor of Judy Fjell

The Rev. Chris and Amy
Rankin-Williams in honor of
Nigel and Jane Heath

Jeff and Ann Roberts in memory of
Jack and Elise Green

Joy Robinson in memory of
Morton and Emilie Robinson

Edith Simonson in honor of
The Rev. Susan Parsons

Dan and Marti Sundeen in honor and
memory of Father Carl Gracely

Cathy Thompson in memory of
Frank A. Thompson

Jennie O. Tracey in memory of
Austin Joseph Tracey II

Margery A. Ward in memory of
Herb Ward and in thanksgiving
for family

Joan Westmoreland in memory of
Fr. Jack Schanhaar

Thank you for gifts to the Ranch's annual operations and development! Your generosity nurtures this center of hospitality.

Operations gifts include the Annual Fund, tree house repair, Chapel window sponsorships, Gina's Orchard Watershed Education Program, Partnership Fund, the Swing Pavilion Project and more...



Cathedral Boys Choir playing before Evening Prayer

Linda Albert
The Rev. Harry R. Allagree
Kat and Dave Anderson
Emily and Dolph Andrews
Anonymous (16)
Marc Duste and Helen Archer-Duste
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd W. Aubry
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher R. Ball
Dorothy W. Banks
Kathleen Bean
Carlisle and Margery Becker
Robert and Suzanne Bell
Shelley Bermudez
Bonnie Bishop
Kay Bishop
The Rev. Machrina L. Blasdell
Becky Blessing
Mr. John S. Blum
Theresa A. Nagle
Sarah Booth
Mrs. Corwin Booth
Suzy Brennan
Caitlin and Nathan Brostrom
The Rev. James T. Brown
Colleen Cannon
Walter and Kathy Capp
The Rev. Bente and Mr. James Carter
Walton Chang and Linda James, Deanna
and Kam Chang
Mary Jane Chetelat
Priscilla H. Christensen
David G. Cockerton
Sheryl Barden Coholan and
Michael Coholan
Emmett and Carol Cooke
Elane Coon
Ann Cress
Lindsey Crittenden
Jacqueline S. Daley
Anne Dauer
Virginia W. Debs
Joan Dedo
Marco and Tracy DeMiroz
The Rev. Scott L. Denman and Kendace
O'Donnell Denman
Jeff Dennis-Strathmeyer and Patty
Strathmeyer
John Diamante

Nick Dikas
Meredith and Carl Ditmore
Martha N. Eakland
John and Debbie Eastburn
Dennis and Phyllis Edmondson
Clay and Miriam Englar
Mrs. Lorraine Evans
Mary Ann and Phil Faris
Chip and Kay Filak
The Rev. Beth and Hale Foote
The Rev. and Mrs. Richard B. Ford
The Rev. Richard Paul Fowler
The Fox family
Kevin Fox
Claire Frydenlund
Margaret G. Fuerst
John and Nan Gallagher
Alexander and Jean Gansa
Ryan Gardiner
Michael and Linda Garvey
John Gaul
Linda and Victor Gavenda
Drs. William Gillanders and
Eregina Bradford
Barbara B. Girard
Mark R. Grace
David and Nancy Gray
Sparky Gregory and Pat Lowers
Loretta Reid
Robert Hainer and Anneliese Mauch
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Hall
Pete and Darlene Haro
Paul Harris and
The Rev. Naomi Chamberlain-Harris
Allan and Betsy Harris
Jo Ann Haseltine
Brian and Tracy Haughton
Ken and Marcella Hauser
Phoebe L. Hendrix
Robin Henke
Ian Hersey and Jeanne Cooper
Richard and Sandra Hitchcock
Lucile Hoar
Elizabeth Hook
The Rev. Robert E. Hughes
Bob and Pat Jacobs
Carol James
Peter and Danyle Johansson
Ron Johnson
John A. and Ellen Jones
Anya Karapetian
Mr. and Mrs. Walter C. Keenan
Marti and Glen Kennedy
Joan Kidd
Mrs. Mary S. Kimball

David Kincaid
Gayle Kindall
Gregory Kirsch
Don and Lyn Klein
Jack and Carolyn Klemeyer
Martha Knabke
Idamaria Knights
A.R. Kovscek and R.E. Taylor
Mr. and Mrs. Augustine C. Krietch
Philip M. Lally
Linda Lancione
The Rev. Joseph A. Lane
Ross and Doree Laverty
Gary and Joan Lawrence
Richard and Kathy Leslie
Claudia A. Lewey
Christopher and Peggy Lewis
Harry Likas
Richard and Dorothy Lind
Michael and Jennifer Livengood
Ralph and Lynn Locher
James T. Love
Robert N. Lowry
Wolfgang and Pat Lusse
Carol Lynn
Alice F. Macondray
Lola Dale Madden
The Rev. Raymond B. Maloney
Amy E. McCarthy
John and Julia McCray-Goldsmith
Sarah, James and Clare McGowan
W. Lynn McLaughlin and David L. Webb
The McSpadden Family
Mr. Alexander R. Mehran
Janet Messman
Arthur and Ella Michel
Donnel and Sylvia Miller-Mutia
Michael and Elizabeth Mooney
The Rev. Patricia Moore
Jan Wellhausen Moore
The Rev. Polly Moore
Dan and Virginia Morrow
Carolyn F. Mulliken
The Rev. Michael Munro
Mr. Peter J. Musto
David Myles
Gregg and Lisa Napoli
Kathy Nelson
Eleanor Joy Nichols
Rita Garvey O'Connor
The Rev. Lynn Oldham Robinett and
Ryan Robinett
James and Jean Palmer
Elita M. Park

These names reflect gifts or pledge payments received between March 1, 2011 and August 31, 2011. If you sent in a contribution during this time and your name is not here, we apologize. Please contact us to let us know. If we received a contribution after August 31, 2011 your name will appear in the next newsletter.



Country Dancers in Swing Pavilion

Sam and Mandy Parke
 The Rev. Susan D. Parsons and
 Bruce A. Murphy
 Dick and Karen Patera
 Grant and Laurel Paul
 Craig Perlov and Dorothy Dickey
 Jocelyn Phelps
 Duane Pinkerton
 Mary Pless
 Erik Puknys and Colleen Kavanagh
 The Rev. and Mrs. Joe Pummill
 Christopher and Caroline Putnam
 The Rev. Chris and Amy Rankin-Williams
 Cindy Rice
 Jennifer K. Rice
 Melissa Ridlon
 Ray Riess
 Chris and Christine Rimer
 Ted and Didi Rodrigues and
 Timothy Rodrigues
 David and Leslie Ross
 Richard Rowe
 The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Hans Sandrock
 Sue and Mike Sartor
 Sam and Helen Sause
 Kirk Schneider and Jurate Raulinaitis
 The Rev. Zoila C. Schoenbrun and
 Dr. Richard Schoenbrun
 Joe Scutella
 Edward and Jane Sebree
 Michael and Catherine Secour
 Judith Anne Sedgwick
 Bill and Janet See
 Richard and Louise Severy
 Charlene Shackelford
 John and Camille Shaffer
 Sheila Cunningham Sims
 Jan and Jerry Slaby
 Mark and Julianna Slater
 The Rev. Bruce and Deb Smith
 Martha Smith
 Deborah Sorondo
 Janet L. Stevens

Richard and Martha Stookey
 Mark and Susan Stutzman
 James and Victoria Sutton
 Sean Swift and Caroline Draper Swift
 Max and Eliot Tarlov
 Anny and Ronald Tasto
 Bill and Sally Thomas
 Mr. Arthur C. and The Rev. Dr. Fran Toy
 Laura Jo Turner
 Kristen Van Ness
 Jephtha and Elizabeth Wade
 Mr. Herbert and the Rev. Jan West
 Richard S. Wheeler
 William C. Whiteside
 Camp and Gail Wilson
 Nancy Wilson
 The Rev. Eleanor T. Woodroffe
 Richard and Sally Young
 Lisa Yount
 Marisha Zeffer

DONATIONS OF TIME AND TALENT

Alan Beber
 Jocelyn Bergen
 Gloria Boadwee
 Michael Defty
 Marc Duste and Helen Archer-Duste
 Family Camp 2011
 Stanley Gwyn
 Roger Hassett
 Men of Grace
 De La Salle High School
 Jay Martin
 The Bishop's Ranch Board of Directors
 Robin Miller
 Rose Scarff
 Brendan Swift

GIFTS FROM ORGANIZATIONS

Bank of America Foundation
 The Mervyn L. Brenner Foundation, Inc.
 Episcopal Diocese of California
 Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
 Grace Cathedral, San Francisco
 Maria Kip Orphanage Fund
 Men of Grace Cathedral
 The Joy L. Robinson Fund (an advised
 fund of the Silicon Valley Community
 Foundation)
 San Francisco Foundation
 Schwab Charitable Fund
 United Way of the Bay Area
 Verizon Foundation



Hikers on the Loop Trail

DONATIONS OF REAL GOODS

Aaction Rents, two day use of a scissor lift
 and trailer
 Emmett and Carol Cooke, linens
 Richard and Meg Coons, linens
 Lindsey Crittenden, linens
 Mr. and Mrs. Paul A.D. Evans, many estate items
 Pat Farquhar, linens
 Chris and Kandie Faurot, volleyball
 Donn Francis and Genevieve Navar, area rugs
 Pat Friday, 24 square glass bud vases
 Jane Heath, Ranch photo cards
 James Herlitz, mountain bike
 Dan Hiles and Gail Adams, dining table with
 eight chairs
 The Rev. Michael Hiller, bluray DVD player
 Linda James, linens
 The Ven. Dorothy K. Jones, coffeemaker
 Idamaria Knights, redwood trees
 John Koch, Dry Creek Vineyard wine
 Gloria Krzyzanowski, linens
 Gary and Joan Lawrence, hot water kettle
 James T. Love, Kawai baby grand piano
 Medford family, linens
 Tim Parker, kitchen and dining items
 Cindy Rice, light stand
 Church of the Resurrection, Pleasant Hill,
 two 5-gallon buckets of soapstone
 Deborah Sorondo, linens
 St. Francis' Episcopal Church, San Francisco,
 6 ft. charcoal BBQ grill
 St. John's, Ross, meeting space
 St. Luke's, San Francisco, meeting space
 St. Stephen's, Orinda, kitchen items
 Jim and Karen Strain, linens
 Dodd and Mary Thorpe, linens
 Missc Wilbanks, food slicer
 Yolo Knitters Guild, hand made afghan

Thanks to many generous individuals, the Ranch was privileged to successfully raise \$5,000 needed for a challenge grant from the Maria Kip Orphanage Fund last fall. With the \$5,000 grant, a total of \$10,000 was deposited into the Ranch Partnership Fund. Since its inception in 1993, thousands of people have used the Partnership Fund to help defray the cost of a retreat. By helping to cover part of the cost, the Partnership Fund makes the benefits of a retreat available to as many as possible.

In addition, at the end of 2010, an anonymous \$5,000 gift was received in honor of former Ranch Board President, Mr. Lloyd W. Aubry. The Maria Kip Orphanage Fund generously matched this gift as well, bringing the grand total raised for the Partnership Fund to \$20,000. Thank you to Maria Kip and the many generous individuals who support this special place and strengthen our ministry through a gift to the Partnership Fund.



The Bishop's Ranch
of the Episcopal Diocese of California
5297 Westside Road
Healdsburg, CA 95448
Change Service Requested



_____	NONPROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID

PERMIT NO. 200	



Printed on recycled paper

Tax Law Makes Giving Easier

Congress has re-authorized the provision that allows you to make a tax-free gift from your IRA to The Bishop's Ranch. This means that if you are 70 1/2 or older and do not need the withdrawals from your IRA, you have a new source of tax-advantaged funds for use in making a gift.

To find out how you can take advantage of this opportunity or to learn more about planned giving and The Bishop's Ranch Legacy Circle, contact Sarah in the Advancement Office at 707-433-2440 x105 or email sarah@bishopsranch.org.

The Bishop's Ranch Wish List

Maintenance/gardens wishes:

- Barn-18' X 26' (or something close to that size)
- Belt grinder, metal working
- Blacksmithing equipment, including: Anvil (160 lbs. or better), coal or gas forge, hammers, tongs or other tools
- Dump trailer
- Dump truck, 3 yard
- Forklift attachment for tractor
- Kawasaki Mule 4-wheel drive vehicle
- Landscape materials: large boulders, soil, flagstone
- Saw with stand, 12" slide-mitre, wood shop type
- Scissor lift (19 or 20 foot size, used only) and trailer
- Split rail fence material (redwood) We can disassemble and pick up
- Truck, 4x4
- Water trailer, 500 gallon
- Wood planer, 12" electric

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

Save Paper, Get Color

Green up your mailbox by switching to the electronic version of Coming Home. Over a thousand people are now receiving the newsletter by email instead of paper. Thank you! This saves paper and other resources, and also benefits recipients of the digital version with full color photos and links to information in that issue. The Ranch is committed to reducing the amount of printed material it produces. Won't you join the movement and provide us with your name, address and email at info@bishopsranch.org?

If you no longer wish to be on our mailing list, or to update your contact info, please email info@bishopsranch.org with your mailing information.

facebook



Become a Fan

Become a facebook fan by clicking "like" on our page. You can also follow us on Twitter (@TheBishopsRanch) to get Ranch updates.