

# Coming Home

News from The Bishop's Ranch

Fall 2014

## Welcome Home

by Jack Dowling, Operations Director

"May she always carry with her the memory of this loving community." This simple prayer is offered for each graduating BREAD camper at the final Eucharist. At that moment the entire camp is gathered to give them a hands-on blessing. For me this is always a moving experience, because I have watched these campers grow from squirrely, middle school kids to wonderful individuals who are ready to step out into a new world.

This summer the farewell to the graduates was, for me, particularly poignant because my son Ivan was one of the graduates and I was preparing for him to launch from the nest to attend college in Philadelphia.

Ivan's departure has caused me to think a lot about the relationships we develop with people here, in little blocks of time, year after year. We get to watch kids grow up, see the rhythm of life families go through, and walk with people through all sorts of journeys both difficult and joyful. We say The Bishop's Ranch is "a place where lives are changed," and I have to remember that through these relationships my life is changed.

Our summer camp program is particularly suited to foster relationships among participants, and between campers and the Ranch. We have an entire week together with some very intentional time set aside to create and strengthen community. We share meals, have deep discussions, play hard, cry and laugh a lot. One BREAD camper wrote on his evaluation this year, "The friends I make here are lifelong friends and my chosen family." Over the 25 years or so that I have been working with camps at the Ranch, I have often felt like a proud parent when I witness how the members of this camp family grow.



*Graduating Seniors, at their last summer of BREAD camp*

Recently a young man named Kelly Gleeson came on personal retreat. He was a camper and then counselor for several years. I remembered as we spoke over lunch one day how as a middle school camper he often tested the boundaries of the rules and required a lot of patience from the staff. I also remembered how as he grew up he became a really great staff person, one who could ask thoughtful questions and be present with the campers. He is now working as a tutor with middle school students who are testing boundaries in

their own lives. We had a good time talking about his time at camp and how his experience as a camper makes him well suited for his work.

He then related a story to me about an encounter he had with a young man who grabbed a woman's smartphone and ran off. Kelly chased him for several blocks and then after a lot of persuading facilitated the return of the phone, convincing the woman not to press charges and offered to

help the youth find work. Forgiveness, reconciliation and opportunity for growth were all offered to this young man, and these are things we profess at camp. I felt proud of Kelly and the role camp community had in making him such a compassionate person.

There are many similar examples of people, carrying the memory of this loving community, and sharing it out in the world. The loving communities that are formed here at camp and on weekend retreats are like families and the Ranch is their home. It is the reason we named our newsletter "Coming Home", because when at the end of our time we say, "goodbye," we are doing so with the hope that we can soon say, "welcome home."

## What's Inside?

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## Summer 2014 Sacred Stories Sacred Space by Andrea Foote, Camp Director

Summer 2014 at The Bishop's Ranch saw new programs, lots of new campers and projects! This summer the Ranch hosted 309 campers and staff. Of that number, 84 were attending their camp session for the first time!

"Sacred Stories Sacred Space" has served as the Ranch's year-long theme and was the programmatic backbone for each camp program. Campers and counselors alike enjoyed energetic and engaging chapel programs. With our chaplains' guidance the community discerned and shared what is sacred in their lives.

A large, framed mesh loom has been the center of the "Sacred Stories Sacred Space" program this summer. Beginning with the Acorn Society Annual Forum in May each retreat guest and camper was encouraged to write or draw onto a cloth strip what is sacred to them and weave it in among the other sacred strips. The loom was filled up throughout the summer as a tapestry of testament to the sacredness in our lives.



*Campers add their prayers to the story loom*

Resident Artist Lisa Thorpe led a personal altar-building workshop for each BREAD camp. These altars were incorporated into worship throughout the camp week and became a way to take a physical sacred space back into their home life.

This summer saw the inaugural week of BREAD 1 for campers entering 4, 5, and 6th grades. The shorter session allowed for younger campers to experience all the fun chaplain programs, Discovery group hikes, pool games, campfires songs, evening



*Josie Clark, Deanna Chang, Joe Fazackerley - camp staff*

activities and cozy cabin time that BREAD camp has to offer.

Our dedicated and zany camp staff, made up of volunteer high school counselors, college students working the whole summer, and volunteer adult staff (nurses, musicians and chaplains) form the foundation of the camp community. Many first time counselors joined the camp staff this year. Along



*Extreme bubble day at Generations Camp*

with their gifts of community building, came skits and songs new to Ranch camps.

New families attended both Generations and Family Camp alongside other families who have been coming for decades - a sign our programs are growing! Intergenerational camps provide a space for every person in a family to be welcomed into the camp community, with activities for all ages. Daily chapel and singing in the mornings with free time to relax in the afternoon is balanced by program activities like art, hikes, small group discussions, pre-dinner social times, and whole-camp evening activities.

A graduating BREAD 3 camper shared that "BREAD camp has contributed so much to my self-esteem and personal identity. I can't imagine what I would be like if I had never come."

Be part of the story in 2015, Save the date!

Camp Staff Training- June 21-27, 2015

Family Camp- June 28-July 4, 2015

Generations- July 5-11, 2015

BREAD 3- July 12-18, 2015

*campers entering 10th grade through  
graduating seniors*

BREAD 2- July 20-25, 2015

*campers entering 7th-9th grades*

BREAD 1- July 27- August 1, 2015

*campers entering 4th-6th grades*

Registration forms will be available in January  
at <http://www.bishopsranch.org/programs-retreats/summer-camps/>



## Annual Forum Photo Album, June 2014



*Robert McDermott, professor of Philosophy, Cosmology and Consciousness at California Institute of Integral Studies and Bishop Marc Handley Andrus were the featured speakers at this year's Annual Forum. They are pictured here in lively discussion of faith, love, leadership, and so much more!*



*Phyllis Culp works on Sacred Stories weaving.*



*Laurie Glover was our Annual Forum Poet in Residence.*



*Kat Anderson & Clara Duquette*

## With a Little Help From Our Friends by Jack Dowling, Operations Director

They say it takes a village to raise a child, and likewise, it takes a community to raise a retreat center. Fortunately the Ranch has a loving community that helps it thrive.

Since our last newsletter, we have benefitted from the talents of several groups and individuals to enhance the experience of others at the Ranch. Some of the things we have accomplished together were made easier by the addition of many more hands, while others we had been scratching our heads about until the right person came along.

St. Stephen's in Belvedere joined us in April, and as part of their program exploring our connectedness to the Earth, planted close to fifty tomato plants in our garden. A few weeks later, volunteer Tracy Johnson added squash, cucumbers and basil. These efforts have literally come to fruit in a delicious way and are being enjoyed by many retreat guests. Dave Householder has been a regular volunteer, primarily working on preserving our redwood fences. Lynn McLaughlin has helped improve the fire alarm system.

Our camps were a great source of extra hands this summer. Each camper at BREAD camp spent an hour in service to the Ranch. Campers sifted compost, moved wood chips, and even helped move all the old mattresses out of the main wing of the Ranch House. Generations Camp spent one morning together, working all around the property. They pruned roses, worked on trail maintenance, created a mosaic counter at the Art Center and built a new split-rail fence at the Cedar Grove.

A group that is a consistent help is the Men of Grace.

They were with us again in August for fellowship and service. Their focus was on the southeast corner of the Ranch House, where they reconstructed the low stone wall, replanted the landscaping and removed ivy from the brick façade of the house. In the evening they discussed ways they could get a new tree house built. (*see tree house article, page 9*)

We have struggled for years to provide an internet signal to more parts of the campus. Enter Phil Hopkinson, a former camper and friend of the Ranch who works with complex networks at the Port of Oakland. Phil has spent several days this spring and summer installing equipment, programming devices and testing signals, so now there is a wireless internet signal to most of the spaces guests use.

People love to walk the wilderness area of the Ranch. When helping someone understand our trail guide we have to come up with a lot of descriptors to explain the literal ups and downs of the trails. Nancy Milholland, with her Masters in Geographic Information, has a better idea. She and her spouse Susan Sutton are working on an accurate, topographical guide to the trails on the Ranch, and not only that, they are helping us develop tools to map all our assets, so we can better manage them. Soon we will know where each bluebird house is, or where all of the many water valves are around the property. All this sharing of talents brings new life and energy to the Ranch. We are grateful for the many ways the Ranch is supported. If you would like to know more about volunteer opportunities here, or have a talent you would like to share, call Jack Dowling at 707-433-2440 x118 or email [jack@bishopsranch.org](mailto:jack@bishopsranch.org).

## The Bishop's Ranch Staff

### Executive Director

Sean Swift

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Cacilia Dale  
Jack Dowling  
Bianca Marquez-Sanabria  
Sarah McGowan  
Shannon Reilly  
Caroline Draper Swift

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Robert Olsen  
Ivan Thorpe

## 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  
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[www.bishopsranch.org](http://www.bishopsranch.org)

## Farewell by Andrea Foote, Camp Director



The camp staff sometimes jokes that the last night of camp is “cry night.” The community is truly formed and bonded; campers can’t imagine leaving their Quest group, cabinmates or counselors, and going back into “the real world.” There is often a candlelit Compline where campers are able to share their feelings at the culmination of their shared experience; this summer we talked often about sacredness in our lives. Its cliché and its wonderful.

What I know to be sacred is when campers and guests create a space to be their authentic selves, life altering growth and interconnectedness can occur. Creativity and beauty in song and art spring forth. Away from daily life, campers young and old alike appreciate rare time in nature as part of an intentional community. The counselors who lead and mentor these communities are in turn formed themselves. I am proud that we have worked hard to reach out and enable any camper to have this experience.

I treasured the ephemeral sacred space of camp even more this summer knowing it would be my last as Camp Director at The Bishop's Ranch. Effectively, this whole summer was “cry night,” for me.

I came to work at the Ranch in 2011, a recent college grad, fresh from of a study abroad experience in Santiago, Chile and an internship in Washington, DC. Living alone in the country was a big shift. Being a residential staff person means a lot of your personal and professional life blends together. I came to relish the opportunity to spend formative years in my twenties working hard and

spending lots of time outside. Thanks to my “counselors” in the Ranch office and at the Diocese, I was constantly learning an amazing amount about the inner workings of a conference center. I learned a lot about myself and who I aspire to be. I got to know new parishes hosting on the weekends. I got a puppy, trained him in the office at work, and somehow prevented him from eating one of Clare's chickens (so far, fingers crossed). I traveled to churches and youth events around the Diocese and saw the spirit of camp alive in campers looking forward to the summer. The vineyards and Ranch trails became my backyard as I trained for a half marathon.

Jack and I shared an office for a year where we'd talk about camping and dreams for camp programs at the Ranch. I was given space to be my authentic self as an employee and Camp Director, and saw our dreams come to life in the summers and beyond. Life changing growth has occurred for me and for this program.

I am incredibly grateful to have had this opportunity. For the hundreds of relationships built, laughs shared, campfires sung, meals enjoyed, hikes walked, Complines prayed, and new campers welcomed. Perhaps my favorite summer moment is seeing first time counselors lead with confidence and enthusiasm.

I will miss this home and community, and am becoming ready to transition to “the real world” for awhile. I plan to take time to travel and discern my next step in the new year. Before leaving I will spend time this fall ensuring the hiring and leadership transition goes smoothly, so the next Camp Director is ready for another great summer.

Many thanks for sharing your families, children and sacred stories with me; this has been a dream job and transformational experience. I look forward to seeing you around the Diocese or the Ranch for years to come.

## Cal Rutherford & Bob Lowry by Sean Swift, Executive Director

The next time you are at the Ranch might be a good time to find the swing chair in back of the Ranch House or one of the Adirondack chairs on the Chapel Lawn and spend a few minutes thinking about what you have been given and the people who came before.

This summer we have been thinking about two people who passed away this past June. At a time when the Church was ready to give up on the Ranch and sell it, both gave generously of themselves to reorganize the Ranch for use and save it for future generations. While we grieve in their absence, we remember and are inspired by their accomplishments.



The Reverend R. Calvert Rutherford, Jr. was a great lover of the Ranch and a past president of the Ranch Board of Directors. Born in 1922, Cal was a veteran of WWII and was awarded a purple heart for combat wounds sustained in Germany in 1944. He lived an adventurous life as an engineer and Episcopal priest in Texas, Japan and California. Cal was faithful, interesting and tremendous fun to be with. To read more about Cal's life see [www.bishopsranch.org/?attachment\\_id=3498](http://www.bishopsranch.org/?attachment_id=3498)



Robert N. Lowry was the uber-competent secretary of the Ranch Board of Directors for many years, utilizing his legal skills to help the Ranch become organized. Born in 1919, he also lived an adventurous life: raised in the U.S. and England, veteran of the U.S. Marines during WWII in the Pacific theater, meeting his future wife in New Zealand and practicing law in San Francisco. You can read more about Bob's life at [www.bishopsranch.org/?attachment\\_id=3497](http://www.bishopsranch.org/?attachment_id=3497)

## The Bishop's Ranch Board of Directors

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The Bishop's Ranch

## Save Paper, Get Color

Switch to the electronic version of Coming Home and green up your mailbox. Over 3,000 people are now receiving our electronic newsletter. 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](mailto:info@bishopsranch.org)? Thank you!

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

## The Bishop's Ranch Wish List

- Electric golf car
- Front load HE washer & dryer
- Sheets, twin or double, new or in excellent condition
- Towels and washcloths, new or in excellent condition
- Sliding compound mitre saw
- Utility trailer
- Digital Water Tester
- Microscopes - for field biology
- Self-propelled push mower
- Vehicles in good working order: Mini van, 9 passenger Suburban type
- Vitamix blender

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



## Summer Days at the Chapel of St. George by Pat Moore, Ranch Chaplain

The Chapel of St. George, on any given day this summer:

The chairs are gone.

The altar has been moved against the back wall.

There are beautiful posters on the walls.

There is a small round table being used for the Eucharist. Little children are gathered around it, able to see the bread and wine—helping distribute the communion.

Whoops! The piano is up front and the boys' choir is rehearsing. . . . Now they're singing evensong.

Now the chairs are in a circle. Prayer and chant fill the space.

There are all kinds of prayer flags hanging from the altar.



*Exuberant campers sing to the chapel rafters*

This time there are notebooks filled with spiritual drawings and hopes on the altar.

Small "home" altars cover the altar.

Guitars and a banjo are leaning against the wall; the lectern is gone.

Shoes fill the entry way outside, bare feet enter the sanctuary: Holy Ground.



*Shoes piled up outside the chapel door*

St. George's Chapel has come through another glorious summer of camps—from our family camps, to our children and youth camps, to our choir camps. All of them have found a home in the Chapel. . . . And each of them has involved lots of rearranging of the chapel.

I'm delighted to report that thanks to the generous matching grants we received, and to the donors who met the match, we have been able to order enough chairs to complete the replacement of the pews on the main floor of the chapel. The chairs are the same as the ones being used in the front part of the chapel. They're attractive, sturdy, comfortable and moveable. The pews which have served us well and



*Generations campers sit on the floor ringed by people sitting in new chapel chairs*

faithfully for many decades, are not moveable—at least not easily moveable. Worship life in the chapel calls for flexibility. And, not just in the summer, but throughout the year. Groups of different sizes, musicians and singers, even dancers, worshippers of different ages—these are folks who worship in our chapel. It will be wonderful to be able to put the chairs in different configurations to enhance our worship in this holy space.

The new chairs will be dedicated at a special evensong service held during the annual Board Retreat in November, and the names of those remembered through donations to the Chapel Furnishing Fund will be read at our chapel celebration of All Saints' Day, November 2.

In addition, we are working hard to make some much needed improvements in the sacristy and have begun consulting and planning for other chapel furnishings designed to contribute to greater flexibility and beauty in our worship. More about that in the near future.

## Gifts given to The Bishop's Ranch in Honor, Memory or Thanksgiving

Jean Alford in honor of Virginia McNeely for her good suggestions  
 Lloyd W. Aubry and Margaret N. Aubry in memory of Robert N. Lowry and in thanksgiving for all his work on behalf of The Bishop's Ranch  
 First Chinese Baptist Church with thanks to Cass Grimes for leading the group on a walk  
 Gloria Bayne in memory of the Rev. Henry G. Bayne  
 Don and Lone Beeson in honor of the Rev. and Mrs. Scott Denman  
 Chris Berardo in loving memory of Roland and Evvie Wiederanders  
 Bonnie Bishop and Priscilla Camp in memory of Elva M. "Bucky" Buckhalter  
 Anna Bullard in memory of Whitney Roberson  
 Sarah Crawford in memory of Kate and Bill Crawford  
 Kitty de Brauwere in memory of her mother, Beatrice Mary and grandmother, Beatrice Mary  
 Craig Perlov and Dorothy Dickey in honor of Deanna Perlov  
 The Rev. Dwight and Rosi Edwards in honor of Rev. Richard and Patty Ford  
 Richard Schaper and Anita Ostrom in memory of Frances Lana  
 Richard Schaper and Anita Ostrom in gratitude for Ranch staff and the recent Acorn Forum weekend  
 Richard Schaper and Anita Ostrom in memory of Liza Colton, who loved the Ranch  
 Chip and Kay Filak in honor of Bill and Mary Swing  
 Bryan and Ellen Ford in memory of Eugene and Gary Jones  
 Cynthia Galt in memory of Craig and Betty Lou Galt  
 Barbara B. Girard in loving memory of Jerald Girard  
 Marty and Joyce Griffin in honor of Joan Griffin and Gina's Orchard  
 John and Cynthia Howard in memory of Robert Howard, Ana Maria Dias, Samantha Howard and Veronica Howard

Randa Jacobs in memory of Cynthia Peña  
 Linda D. James in memory of Elva Louise Goyer  
 Georgene Keeler in memory of Cal Rutherford  
 Marti and Glen Kennedy for those who have no one to pray for them  
 Don and Lyn Klein in memory of George W. Whitaker and Donald L. Klein, Sr.  
 Sarah Lane in memory of The Rev. Richard Paul Fowler  
 Ross and Dorothy Laverty in memory of Penny Degrado  
 Henry H. and Carole Jan Lee in memory of Bob Lowry and Liza Colton  
 Ann N. Lowry in memory of Bob and Mary Lowry  
 Dale Madden in memory of Wil Madden, who dedicated many loving hours to the Ranch  
 Eric and Jessica Metoyer in memory of Hayes Keeler  
 Peter B. Mohr in memory of Carolyn McFall Mohr  
 The Rev. Patricia Moore in memory of Dr. Vincent Harding in thanksgiving for his life  
 Mr. Peter J. Musto in memory of Bob Lowry and Cal Rutherford  
 Claudia Nadalin in celebration of Nancy Grandfield's birthday  
 Claudia Nadalin in honor of newborn twins Mateo Donald and Daniel Mauricio  
 Gregg and Lisa Napoli in memory of Arthur Craig  
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Catherine Pyke in memory of Liza Colton  
 Mr. Art Reichert and The Rev. Elaine Gilmer Reichert in memory of Ralph and Lorna Gilmer  
 Jeanette Repp in honor of Joe Pummill  
 Ted and Shirley Ridgway in honor of Diaconate ordination of Kathryn Wallace  
 Joy Robinson in memory of Morton and Emilie Robinson  
 Roxann Rutherford in honor of Jim Forsyth  
 Sam and Helen Sause in memory of our son David, for whom the Ranch was special  
 Dan and Marti Sundeen in honor of Jo Schwahn  
 Sean Swift and Caroline Draper Swift in memory of Hayes Keeler  
 Sean Swift and Caroline Draper Swift in memory of Whitney Roberson  
 Sean Swift and Caroline Draper Swift in memory of Liza Colton, Cal Rutherford and Bob Lowry  
 Sean Swift and Caroline Draper Swift in appreciation of the leadership of Mike and Martha Helms  
 Mr. Arthur C. and The Rev. Dr. Fran Toy in honor of Hayes and Georgene Keeler  
 Mr. Arthur C. and The Rev. Dr. Fran Toy in honor of Jessie Yee's 80th birthday  
 Jephtha and Elizabeth Wade in honor of Lloyd and Margaret Aubry  
 Rock and Marni Warner in memory of Vinny  
 Dewey and Susan Watson in memory of Leslie Bowman Marcus  
 Kay Wells in memory of Ronald Wells  
 Joan Withers Dinner in memory of Marshall Smith  
 Verena Won in memory of Stanley Won  
 Marisha and Paul Zeffer in memory of Mom and Dad



Opening ceremony at Generation Camp annual softball/kickball extravaganza 2014



## Thank you for gifts to the Ranch's annual operations and development!

*Gifts and pledges were made to the Annual Fund, Pool Area Renovation, Partnership (scholarship) Fund, the Chapel Chair project, the Pond Restoration project, new Treehouse Fund and more...*

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Dave and Kat Anderson  
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*These names reflect gifts or pledge payments received between March 1 and August 31, 2014. 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, 2014, your name will appear in the next issue.*

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 Sean Swift and Caroline Draper Swift  
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 Pamela Dodd Tate  
 The Beverly M. Folger Foundation  
 Cathy Thompson  
 Arlene Fischhoff and Rich Trevor  
 Rock and Marni Warner  
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 Kay Wells  
 Mr. Herbert and the Rev. Jan H. West  
 George Westermarck  
 Richard S. Wheeler  
 William C. Whiteside  
 Jon and Elizabeth Worden  
 Roger and Martha Worton  
 Dickson Yeager  
 Marisha and Paul Zeffer

#### **GIFTS FROM ORGANIZATIONS**

All Soul's, Berkeley  
 Bank of America Foundation  
 The Mervyn L. Brenner Foundation, Inc.  
 Brewster West Foundation  
 Christ Episcopal Church, Alameda  
 Christ Episcopal Church, Portola Valley  
 Church of St. Gregory Nyssen,  
 San Francisco  
 Church of the Incarnation, Santa Rosa  
 Church of the Resurrection, Pleasant Hill  
 Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
 Grace Cathedral Boys Choir alumni  
 Holy Innocents' Church, Corte Madera  
 The Robinson Gift Fund at the Silicon  
 Valley Community Foundation  
 Schwab Charitable Fund  
 Silicon Valley Community Foundation

St. John's Episcopal Church, Oakland  
 St. John's Episcopal Church, Ross  
 St. Matthew's Episcopal Church  
 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Healdsburg  
 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church,  
 Belvedere  
 St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Danville  
 The Margaret Wosser Endowment  
 U.S. Bank Foundation Employee  
 Matching Gift Program  
 United Way of the Bay Area  
 The Jeannette Upton Endowment  
 Verizon Foundation

#### **DONATIONS OF REAL GOODS**

Sandra J. Ahn, linens  
 Bryce Austin, peaches and apricots  
 Willa Bowman, linens  
 Tamara Borok, linens  
 Michael Coen and Deidre Brodeur, linens  
 Emmett and Carol Cooke, linens  
 Pamela Gallaway, linens  
 Laurie Glover, 200' soaker hose  
 Woody Hambrecht, cases of wine  
 Brian and Tracy Haughton, books and  
 linens  
 Greg and Beth Helms, kitchen and linen  
 items  
 Elizabeth Honig and Deb Niemeier,  
 sports equipment  
 Jack and Carolyn Klemeyer, book and  
 linens  
 Delaine Little, linens  
 Rich and Alice Marshall, computer  
 monitor  
 Candace and James Martin, coffee  
 makers and vacuum cleaner  
 W. Lynn McLaughlin and David L. Webb,  
 Facilities and Land equipment, linens,  
 Persian carpet runner  
 The Rev. Nancy Milholland and Susan  
 Sutton, geomapping project of the  
 Ranch

Robert Olsen, linens  
 Lois Phillips, coffee pot, filters, coffee  
 Timothy and Alice Pidgeon, piano and  
 bench, linens  
 Erik Puknys and Colleen Kavanagh, Zego  
 energy bars  
 Matt and Joanie Santos, beverage servers  
 Michael and Catherine Secour, linens  
 Deborah Sorondo, linens  
 Valerie Tigert, linens  
 Mary and Lance Wood, linens

#### **DONATIONS OF TIME AND TALENT**

Alan Beber  
 Francois Gerald Bleu  
 BREAD camps  
 Michael Defty and Javier Salazar  
 De la Salle High School  
 Generations Camp  
 Stanley Gwyn  
 Phil Hopkinson  
 Dave Householder  
 Ron Johnson  
 Tracy Johnson  
 James Martin  
 Lynn McLaughlin  
 Nancy Milholland  
 Men of Grace  
 Craig Palmer  
 Eric Park  
 Jim Petersen  
 Wayne Rash  
 Chuck Sanderson  
 Travis Shoemaker  
 Johnny Spangenberg  
 St. James Episcopal Church, San  
 Francisco  
 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church,  
 Belvedere  
 Susan Sutton  
 Brian Wallace  
 Dalton Ward  
 Randy Wattorp  
 (see article on page 3)

## **Rebuilding a Treehouse**

by Sean Swift, Executive Director



*Three tiered treehouse in its glory days with visitors swinging and climbing*

Everyone at the Ranch is tired of our post-treehouse existence. Most of you remember that the live oak that hosted the treehouse died and the treehouse had to be removed. Besides being a place of imagination, a place to play and enjoy the outdoors, the treehouse was a memorial for friends of the community who had died of AIDS.

Now that the new pool is built, we hope to get going on replacing the treehouse. Last year, the Church of the Resurrection in Pleasant Hill raised funds for the treehouse project through the production of the play *Our Town*. Recently, the Men of Grace at Grace Cathedral were at the Ranch doing service projects. Following dinner one evening a task force was formed to design, fundraise, plan and build a new treehouse. The goal is to build a new structure during the summer of 2015.

For more information please contact Sean Swift at [sean@bishopsranch.org](mailto:sean@bishopsranch.org)

## Ranch Staff News by Shannon Riley and Bianca Márquez-Sanabria



*Ivan Thorpe waves goodbye for now to the Ranch and hello UPenn!*

The summer season has been full of major life transitions for our staff, including new arrivals and some “see you soon” that will change the fall foliage here at The Bishop’s Ranch.

Starting with new arrivals, we are pleased to announce that Adriana Villafuerte, a member of our incredible housekeeping team, gave birth to beautiful Juan Miguel, who was born on May 13th; weighing almost 9 lbs. and 20” long.

Congratulations to Ivan Thorpe who departed the Ranch this August for the University of Pennsylvania on a full-ride scholarship from the James Family Foundation. Ivan, the son of Operations Director, Jack Dowling, and his wife Lisa Thorpe, our Resident Artist, is majoring in architecture and keeping up with his trombone playing as a member of the Penn Scramble Band.

Continuing on his student path, Miguel Gutierrez, one of our stellar Prep Cooks, has been attending the Santa Rosa Junior College for the past year; working hard on his classes with the goal to transfer to either UC San Diego or UC Berkeley as a Chemistry major. ¡Mucha suerte con tu continuación de estudios universitarios Miguel!

In the pursuit of higher education, Reed Moticka, son of our Kitchen Manager Robin Miller, has begun his general education studies at the Mendocino Junior College this fall, with a particular liking for his agricultural class.

Camp Director and Volunteer Coordinator, Andrea Foote, is moving to the Bay Area this fall to pursue new opportunities. She has been with The Bishop’s Ranch since the summer of 2011 as a true inspiration from all she has accomplished, leaving behind a powerful legacy.

Long-time Maintenance Coordinator Doug Wade retired this summer with plans of home renovations and building teepees. We are grateful for all his contributions through the years, and are glad that Doug will still join us to work with volunteer groups on improvement projects around the Ranch. He’ll also be here to work with Jack on a variety of metalwork creations in the blacksmith shop.

## Sacred Stories, Sacred Space – 2014 Annual Fund Drive

*“I would like to give to the Annual Fund, but I would not be able to give enough to make a difference.”*

No gift to the Annual Fund is insignificant. Gifts as precious as a child’s offering of \$5 and as grand as many thousands of dollars all help to support The Ranch by funding ten percent of day-to-day operations.

Did you know: when the Ranch leadership team applies for a much-needed and well-deserved grant, we must show broad support through our donor base, as well as sustainability in terms of dollar amounts? This means that the number of donors is taken into account, and the size of the donor base is treated as equally important as the amount raised. Perhaps you’d also be surprised to hear that 25% of Annual Fund donations are gifts of \$100 or less? Annual Fund gifts arrive in all shapes and sizes from guests of all ages and paths of life and are woven into the tapestry needed to support the Ranch each year. You are encouraged to give at a level that is comfortable for you. The amount you give to the Annual Fund is between yourself and God. An

investment in Ranch hospitality and its place in the spiritual lives of so many each year is an investment in the world around us. Bring gratitude on your spiritual journey. Make your donation of any size to the Annual Fund with a generous heart and contemplative spirit, and join the team of friends of the Ranch! Use the enclosed envelope or visit [www.bishopsranch.org](http://www.bishopsranch.org) to make a gift or pledge today.



*Christopher Putnam and Deanna Perlov*



## Legacy Circle Highlight



### *Legacy Circle Member*

*Mary "Liza" Elizabeth Colton*

*September 20th, 1952 to May 19th, 2014*

Mary Elizabeth Colton or Liza as she was known, provided much support and leadership to The Bishop's Ranch during her life. Liza's leadership and support will continue to be evident at the Ranch for a long time to come through the generosity of her Legacy gift. Her designated bequest will help support maintenance on the Swing Pavilion and the Chapel of St. George well into the future.



*From left to right: Sean Swift, Richard Schaper, Lord Nelson, and Liza Colton touring the pool area renovation in 2012.*

Born in Salt Lake City, UT, she grew up in San Francisco, CA and Utah before graduating from East High School in Salt Lake City and later the University of Utah. Liza grew up loving to ski and play tennis. She even won national competitions in team tennis.

Liza began her career in the hotel industry at the airport Hilton in Salt Lake City before moving to Palm Springs to manage another Hilton hotel. She soon left for Lake Arrowhead, CA and managed the Saddleback Inn for many years. She received a certificate as a programmer and GPS specialist,

and in 2001 moved back to San Francisco to work as a consultant for Systems Programmers, mainly testing applications prior to rollout. She also worked as a tour guide in Golden Gate Park and served on the Board of Directors for The Bishop's Ranch. Liza served on the vestry and as junior warden at St James Episcopal church in San Francisco.

Liza had great love for all animals. She owned many dogs and cats over the course of her life and each was treated as a close family member. Her newest best friend was Lord Nelson, a Yorkshire terrier.

Liza loved nature, hiking, skiing, tennis, boating, fishing, literature and film. She enjoyed traveling and toured the world by exploring different cultures in Asia, Central America, Europe and the Caribbean. She even witnessed a Space Shuttle launch in Cape Canaveral, FL. She always had great compassion for others and would offer friendship and assistance to anyone in need.

Recently, The Bishop's Ranch supporters helped to install beautiful, new chairs in the Chapel of St. George, pictured here. The new chairs allow for maximum flexibility of the worship needs in the sanctuary space. Thanks to Liza's generosity, any maintenance needs these new chairs may require in the future are covered, so to speak. We give much thanks for Liza's unflagging service and generosity to The Bishop's Ranch.



*New chairs in the Chapel of St. George*

You, too, may wish to leave a lasting legacy and remember The Bishop's Ranch in your will or estate plan. Contact the Advancement Office at 707.433.2440 x105 or visit [www.bishopsranch.org/support-us/the-legacy-circle/](http://www.bishopsranch.org/support-us/the-legacy-circle/) for additional information. New members will be inducted into the Legacy Circle during the Acorn Society Annual Forum weekend May 29 to 31, 2015.



## The Bishop's Ranch

of the Episcopal Diocese of California  
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From "*the abundant table*" - Recipes from The Bishop's Ranch Kitchen"

# Cornbread

## WITH CHILES & CHEESE

This moist cornbread is extra flavorful with the addition of sweet corn, Cheddar cheese, and chiles. This recipe can also be made into muffins and works well paired with chili at lunch, or eggs and home cooked pinto beans at breakfast.

- 1 cup unbleached flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 3 tsp granulated sugar or honey
- 1 tsp sea salt
- 2/3 cup cornmeal
- 3 eggs room temperature, separated
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 3 tbs oil or melted butter

### Optional Ingredients:

- 1 cup grated Cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup whole kernels of fresh corn, briefly blanched and cooled
- 1/4 cup canned Anaheim mild green chiles, chopped

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Grease a 9-inch springform or round cake pan.

Sift the flour, baking soda, baking powder, sugar, salt, and cornmeal into a medium bowl.

In another bowl, combine the egg yolks, buttermilk, and oil or melted butter. Beat with a whisk until well blended.

With an electric beater, whip egg whites until soft peaks form.

Make a well in the middle of the dry ingredients. Add the wet to the dry, mixing just until moist. Stir in the cheese, corn, and chiles if using. Gently fold in egg whites until just blended. The egg whites should still be visible in the batter. Do not over mix.

Bake for 45 minutes, or until golden brown and a toothpick comes out clean when inserted in middle. Cool briefly on racks before removing from pan. Cut into wedges and serve.

Serves 10 to 12