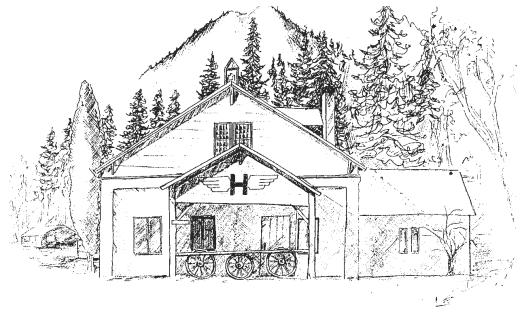


# Flying H Youth Ranch

370 Flying H Loop  
Naches, WA 98937



“...turning the hearts...” *Malachi 4:6* since 1962

**January 2008**

Dear Partners,

The longer I am here, the more I realize how important fathers are. Let me re-use an old Partner Letter:

One of our English teachers, Patty Fried, assigned her class to write a “contrast and comparison” paragraph, and one of the available topics was the difference between knowledge and wisdom. Mike, a member of her class, wrote the following:

*Knowledge knows about physical things like math, history, language, or science. Wisdom is more personal. It knows right and wrong. Knowledge is understanding there is a choice to make between God and Satan. Wisdom is making the right choice. People can have knowledge of God and not have wisdom from God. Wisdom is what God offers. Knowledge is what the world offers. It is up to people to choose.*

Amen. Time will tell what choice Mike has made. He is showing signs of having chosen wisdom, and we are hopeful. Mike hit the nail on the head, and his statement applies to all of us. For example, wisdom for husbands is to “...love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her...” (Eph. 5:25) This is often where wisdom is first given up in a family. When a man does not follow this wisdom to love his wife, he denies her - and their marriage - the sustenance necessary to survive. I heard a commentator on the radio compare a husband's love for his wife as being akin to the air she breathes. She will not survive emotionally without it. The marriage becomes empty, the children learn from their father how to handle their relationships, and the father's lack of wisdom is transferred to the next generation.

The foolishness doesn't stop there. I am designed to love. I will love something, or someone. Once I turn my back on my love for my wife, I will seek another place to attach my affection. It might be work, or another woman, or “play” time with my buddies, or hunting, or ministry. The point is, I was made in God's image, and so I was made to love, and I will love something. If I choose foolishly, my wife becomes empty, I become empty, and my marriage becomes empty.

If I choose foolishly as a husband, if I choose Satan instead of God by selfishly denying love to my wife, my children will often end up choosing foolishly just like I did. After all, I am their example, and they are watching. Should we wonder that this kind of marriage ends up needing the help of a boys' ranch for their teenage son?

Please pray for the fathers of our boys. Our culture does not reward husbands loving their families very often. It rewards foolishness, not wisdom. Fathers need God's intervention to be able to stand up as men who love their wives and their children.

God bless,

*Bob*

Bob Hostetler  
Executive Director

### **Our praises:**

- A family feels called to help Jesse's mom, the young man in last month's letter. This has even more importance than when I wrote of the need. Jesse's mom was laid off from her job, but is convicted that God would have her keep Jesse here. God is good!
- Travis graduated! He is with his family in Germany now, and is headed for the Air Force.
- The Rodriguez family is moving to the Ranch by the end of January! Please pray that in their transition of joining our staff they would stay centered on God.

### **Our prayer requests:**

- We hope to do three more intakes in January. Please pray for God to send us His choices, and for the staff to be able to minister God's love to each family.
- A new resident is scheduled to enter the program on Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup>. He has the rebellion that all our boys have, but also is likely to be quite a challenge in school. (Both he and the staff need prayer!)
- There are few inquiries coming in. We would like to have more.
- The Marks (ranch interns) are at 41% support. Our goal was 50% by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year. We've missed that, but still trust God to raise their support.
- The Huntings, another prospective staff family, are at 43% support.

### **Our needs:**

- Axes, wedges, and mauls for processing wood.
- Two or three push lawn mowers. (Spring is very likely to be here soon!)
- A conference table for intakes.