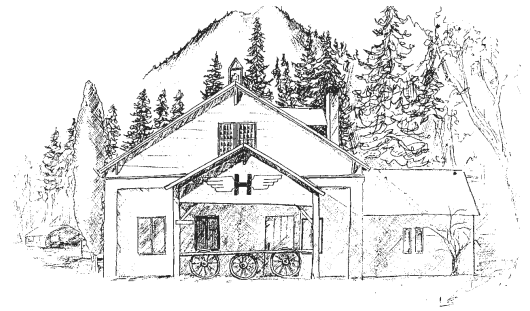


Flying H Youth Ranch

370 Flying H Loop
Naches, WA 98937



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

July 8, 2009

Dear Partners:

We're back! The boys are back from two weeks of Home Assignment with their parents. Some have returned with glowing reports, some with not so glowing reports, and some with reports that require discipline measures because of their poor choices while on leave. The staff is also back. While the boys are home, the staff families are expected to take vacations or visit churches and friends in deputation. A few families stay at the ranch to hold down the fort until the boys return.

When the boys return, the kitchen gears up to full production, and the kitchen is going to be the focus of this letter. This is appropriate since the kitchen is my focus as Domestic Services Supervisor. Actually the kitchen is the focal point for most of us when we come into the lodge. The women come in to take charge of the kitchen or to visit or to share a meal when their husbands are working with boys. The staff men wander in to chat, grab a cup of coffee, or ask “what’s for dinner?” The boys ask permission to come in to chat, ask “what’s for dinner,” or help prepare the meal or set the table. For the most part it is a busy, friendly place. All staff women are in charge of at least one meal per week. Women who enjoy cooking and are not heavily scheduled in other areas cook more meals while our moms with young children are not able to do more. At this point our volunteer staff women fill one third of the cooking shifts which takes considerable pressure off the staff families. Because our ministry operates 24 hours, 7 days a week, staff couples function in many different roles, cooking being just one of them.

In addition to serving delicious meals, the kitchen is also used for training, discipline, and reward. Meal set-up and clean-up are assignments filled by our young men. A boy nearing the completion of the program will perform his chores with the timeliness and efficiency of a veteran while a year before he may have had to repeat his task several times before he understood the requirements of the chore. The assignments to the chore list at the end of the meal are first filled by boys working off discipline hours or earning tokens to get off a discipline card. No time is worked off by this clean-up assignment, but it serves as an incentive to work hours off at other opportunities. At the opposite end of the spectrum, when a young man earns a privilege status he is rewarded with designated days/weeks free from meal-time clean-up chores.

In addition to the meal-time chores, the meals themselves serve to train, discipline, and reward. Meal-time prayer and devotions (breakfast) are practiced; courtesy, table manners, and gratitude are encouraged; and balanced eating is enforced (no dessert unless one eats main dish and veggies or fruit). Again, as an incentive for good behavior, boys with hours do not receive seconds on a meal and a counselor dishes up their plate. Acting-out young men with excessive hours do not receive the cooked meal but rather receive a bologna sandwich with a fresh fruit or vegetable which they eat isolated from others. At the reward end of the spectrum, a young man who has lost no points on his gradesheet (behavioral) may choose from a variety of food items as a reward the

following day. Also a young man who has achieved privilege status receives special food privileges in an on-going basis.

How are we able to feed these boys and staff on our very conservative food budget? Since we are a private Christian ministry, we are not connected to government food sources. But that does not restrict God's bounty to us. As we have prayed we have seen our needs supplied. For example, because of health code restrictions, we have not been able to butcher our home-grown beef, but local and regional sources have supplied generous amounts of hamburger, chicken, bacon, beef and pork roasts, and processed meats—almost more than we can store. The Union Gospel Mission in Yakima shares bread and produce with us weekly, and a regional food bank makes a variety of meat, dry goods, and fresh/frozen produce available monthly. We receive it with gratefulness as from God.

Since food and the preparation of it has always been a primary need of mankind and at the heart of the home, we capitalize upon this in our training program. However, we take it a step further to serve God in loving each other. We use it as a source of blessing, comfort, and welcome to our boys, their parents, our staff families, volunteer groups, and visitors. We would love to be hospitable to you also. Please call and schedule a meal with us.

In Christ's Service,
Patty Fried for FHYR

Praises:

- Another successful Family Resolve (theme of Servant Leadership)
- Safe return of all boys
- Huyser's support on the rise
- Jim Fried is improving nicely and working more hours
- New tables and chairs in the dining room

Prayer Requests:

- Protection during river sports, wood cutting, and hikes
- Discernment & wisdom during three intakes this month
- Continued need for funds for Bibles & lodge roofing

Did you know that this partner letter can be found on our website @ www.flyingh.org? Or, let us know if you would like to begin receiving this letter via e-mail.

Cowiche Creek Nursery shared flowers with us in time for Family Resolve.

