



Flying H Youth Ranch

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Sponsored by Rocky Mountain Faith Mission

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Dear Partners,

Having been given the opportunity to write this month's letter, I thought it would be nice for our partners to hear an example of how staff members end up at the Ranch. I will do this by telling our own story; (The Hunting's) how God called us to be missionaries at the Flying H.

My husband Aaron first came to the Ranch when he was 8 months old and lived here as a staff kid until he was 18. He went to school with other staff children at Nile Christian for most of that time. At 13 he went with his Dad and the Ranch boys on his first Survival Hike, in which he had to follow all the same rules as the Ranch boys. When I met my husband several years later he was still telling stories from that hike, for him it was fun, challenging, and faith moving all in one.

As much as Aaron loved his childhood at the Flying H and loved returning for visits, he had no interest in becoming a missionary himself, especially at the Ranch. Scorning his missionary upbringing he wanted to go out into the world and strike it rich! God has quite a sense of humor though doesn't He! Although I had always been interested in ministry, neither of us ever had an interest in missions. I used to joke that I knew God was going to force me to be a missionary someday because I didn't want to be one! I heard many stories over the years from missionaries who felt the same way until God drew their hearts to mission work. In the first few years of our marriage God began to change our hearts concerning money and possessions. And, as I not so seriously predicted, God drew our hearts to the mission field. At first we didn't know what, where, or when, but through a series of events God began to answer those questions.

Aaron had finished his teaching degree and was substitute teaching in Spokane hoping to get his foot in the door of one of the area school districts. We were also applying for jobs in the rest of Washington, and in Oregon and Idaho. We began to find out that it was very hard to get a teaching job in one of these areas and were having to look further from home. During our personal prayer times we began to sense that God was telling us that he wanted Aaron to do something different. The day after we voiced this to each other we felt we received confirmation when one of Aaron's close friends who had no idea what we were thinking said "Maybe the Lord doesn't want you to be a public school teacher."

The following day I found out that the Ranch was in need of teachers. When Aaron called home on one of his breaks that day I told him and the first words out of his mouth were "No way, God is not calling us there!" I didn't really understand his response, but I knew it wouldn't be wise to convince him to enter the ministry without God's leading so I asked him to pray about it. When I got off the phone, I bundled up our little girl and went for a walk so that I could pray. I prayed that I would not pressure Aaron, or influence him

to go to the Ranch. I asked that if it was God's will, that He would change my husband's heart and make it his own desire. While I was praying this He was doing that very thing. Three hours later Aaron called me back on the phone ready to pack our bags as well! We contacted the Ranch that day and through a series of interviews we were approved for full time service and began to raise our support. It took almost exactly one year to raise our support.

We have now been at the Ranch a little over a year and a half. Aaron has been able to help lead the same hike twice now that changed his own life so many years ago and he teaches History in the new school. We feel very blessed to me a part of this ministry.

In Him,

Tricia Hunting

Tricia Hunting

“It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”

Ephesians 4:11-13

Praises:

- We are graduating one of our boys 'Mike' who has done well in our program and is going home to finish school and begin working. His family is looking forward to his arrival.
- Thanksgiving for the work of our part time and full time volunteers. They are so generous and helpful in all the tasks that they perform for the ranch.

Prayer Requests / Needs:

- Please continue to pray for donations for our roof over the Lodge (oldest part) approx. \$15,000 to replace.
- Also, replacement of our old 15-passenger Vans. We are praying and saving for (2) 9 passenger 4 wheel drive Suburban / Excursion type vehicles.
- Additional Boys in our program. We currently have 7 vacancies after graduating 4 boys in Oct / Nov of last year and 2 being withdrawn for financial reasons and a non return after a runaway.
- Pray for the boys and their families of our current population, that they will turn their hearts toward the Lord.