



Flying H Youth Ranch 370 Flying H Loop Naches, WA 98937



Father-Son Campout (February 14-16th)

Dear Friends of the Flying H,

While most of the nation experienced frigid temperatures and heavy snowfalls, we had little to no snow with very mild temperatures and dire predictions concerning irrigation shortages for the summer. We also had our annual Father-Son Campout (which features snow sports) scheduled for Presidents' Day weekend. Graciously, our Heavenly Father blessed us with a heavy snowfall the weekend before the event. During the weekend, a full foot of snow fell on the campers adding to the enjoyment.

Around 40 young men, dads, stand-in dads, staff, and community volunteers crowded into the American Ridge Ski Lodge February 14-16. This lodge, built in the early 1900's, offers no luxury accommodations. Lanterns, wood fires, gas grills, a 16 seater pit toilet (!!!), picnic tables, sleeping mats, and ear plugs were the order of

the day. Several staff men spent a couple of days ahead of time plowing snow, cutting firewood, fixing the lodge, preparing food, etc. in order to make this weekend happen. All were shuttled to the base of the camp by Ranch vans; and from there snowmobiles with sleds, a 4-wheel drive vehicle, and a 4-wheel drive all-terrain vehicle transported the boys, men, and the mega gear the rest of the almost a mile to the lodge.

In addition to snow sports, the weekend featured target shooting on Saturday and paintballing on Sunday. Firearms historian Joe Ellithorpe gave the background on a couple of antique guns and ammunition and instructed the boys in firearms safety. Of course, most of the guys enjoy the Sunday paintballing the best. What is camping without food? Not much. Once again the food was superb and a highlight several times a day!

Joe Ellithorpe (parent of a young man who successfully completed the program) was also the featured speaker focusing on the topic of identity and destiny. He challenged the group to get the most important things in life right—mainly knowing and having a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Thank you to all who made this weekend possible and to all the dads who joined their sons (one flying in from CA).

Jim Fried,

Family Services Director



Praises:

- Prayers have been answered, we are now at 16 boys and our classrooms are thriving, or so it seems. God is great!
- Hearts are changing in God's timing. What a wonderful thing to see in the boys and men and others that God has placed in our path.
- For provisions- that have been requested. We have just received a large sum of money to put toward our "Lodge Ceiling Project". Thank you Lord!

Prayer Requests:

- That our ranch boys would hear the Word of God clearly on a daily basis and respond accordingly.
- That our ranch boys parents would not only see positive eternal changes in their boys life, but also in their family relationships.
- We are on our way toward our remodel; we are looking to purchase or have donated, new wooden French Doors for the glass room area of the lodge.