



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

We were again greatly blessed to have a sailing adventure on the S.V. Cutty Sark. This is our 3rd year to sail with Captain John Colby Stone in the San Juan Islands. We had excellent weather this year with no rain, and were able to sail on 2 of the 4 days on the water. The staff who went this year are Steve Alumbaugh and his brother Jon, Ben Creach, and Bruce and Sherry Gillespie.



The sailing trip is considered a school fieldtrip. The ranch boys are the crew on the ship, staff is crew officers, and Captain John is in charge. In addition to the sailing stations, the boys learn how to steer the ship, raise the sails, navigate, spot marine wildlife, and make entries in the ships log. The captain provides



lessons on history, geology, biology, knot tying, and ship lore.



Each night we camped on a different Island (Sucia Island, Jones Island, and James Island). After setting up camp, and doing some exploring, the boys were ready for their Mountain House dehydrated dinners.

One night the parents of a past Ranch boy brought us dinner- which was greatly appreciated!



After dinner, Captain John would share spellbinding stories about the history of the area. Then each night one of the staff had a devotional around the campfire. This generally included some scripture reading about maritime stories or teaching. Then it was off to bed- and we slept well!



Following are some comments by boys and staff to Captain John:

“Thank you for the opportunity to go sailing and explore the different islands. It was a new experience and enjoyable.” Ed

“This was the last trip I will be taking with you, and I am sad to not be going on your ship again. Even though I got sick under “sail power” each time, I had a good time. Thank you for allowing me to help run the Cutty Sark for a few days.” Sam

“Thank you for taking us out sailing! It was a great first for me on a sailing boat!” Ben

“I very much enjoyed being aboard your sailing vessel. I feel like a real old salty guy now. I’ll remember this trip and thanks again. Your loyal crew mate, Nicholas

“Thank you so much for your servant’s heart and your gentle but firm leadership. I learned so much from you! God Bless you and keep you. Kairat

“Thank you a thousand times over. You are so much appreciated. You have amazing patience with the boys and us staff and encourage all of us greatly. May God bring us together for another sailing trip!” In His great love and mercy, Sherry



*Bruce Gillespie (Pictures by Sherry and Boys from Photography Class)*

**Praises & Prayers :**

***We continue to receive financial support for our remodel of the Lodge. So far we have the cushions all recovered and one new couch built, all the tongue and groove pine for the ceiling stained and ready to put up. Next on our funding list we will be looking at curtains and carpet. Please continue to pray for us and our volunteers as this project continues. Our needs are approximately 50% covered so far. I have not gotten estimates on what is left to purchase.***

***Praises for a 2000 Ford Excursion, donated by one of our generous support families. What a blessing to have them deliver it also. An answer to our prayers.***

- ***Continue to pray for our boys, we have some here that are still having a difficult time adjusting to the fact that we just can't tolerate being a 'bully' towards the other boys, or singling out an individual to 'bully'. Also, pray for our staff in knowing how to deal with these boys and events.***
- ***Praising the Lord for our Volunteer staffing needs and those that fill in the 'gaps'.***
- ***Thanking the Lord for all of you that support the Flying H Youth Ranch and your families***

