



Christian Encounter Ranch NEWSLETTER

The next 50 years

The following excerpt was taken from Executive Director Nate Boyd's speech delivered Saturday evening of the 50th anniversary celebration.

As we look to the future of the Ranch, one of my continual prayers and priorities has been increasing organizational strength and resilience to be able to withstand whatever trouble comes in future years and decades.

To this end, the Ranch family has accomplished a tremendous amount over the past few years. We've invested substantially in projects with a view to long term benefits. We've renovated many buildings, including seven residences. We've been blessed with help developing infrastructure including a paved road, an outdoor kitchen, and other projects underway at Angels' Meadow.

Last month we received full approval from the Nevada County Building Department to move forward with the extensive duplex remodel job, and we promptly initiated that project. We've implemented large scale updates to our

use of technology and branding, and we're developing our digital presence.

We've reduced overheads, streamlined tasks and procedures, and worked hard to establish efficient and effective processes undergirding the ministry.

Despite all this investment, we also paid off a mortgage and are completely debt-free. We continue to be committed to receiving no government funding as well. It is essential that we be free to minister as a church, for the church, not neutralized and impoverished by the regulations that come with government money. This stance has defended and preserved the ministry both before my time and again during my time.

All this progress happening and the freedom we have to minister is due to you all, and to the tremendously generous community which faithfully supports the work happening here.

As we look to the future, only God knows what tomorrow holds. We rest in God's knowledge and power, and we work to discern what is happening in our world and what God's vision for us is. And so I do have some thoughts about what the next 50 years may hold for the Ranch.

Societal trends point toward greater opposition and an increasingly complex world in which to minister. Bureaucracy, regulation, and the legal landscape are all moving in difficult directions.

Tragically, trends also indicate the need for the Ranch is increasing, including climbing depression and suicide rates; deepening spiritual chaos; a celebrated erosion of morality in our culture; widespread family breakdown; the ongoing opioid crisis; and on and on. There is a desperate need for the hope that can only be found in Jesus.

And that is why the Ranch exists.
(cont. on back page)





One of CER's founders, Tom Salter, addresses the crowd Saturday evening, with over 250 people in attendance.



Mark Andrews gathers with former interns who served under his leadership. (L to R) **Back row:** Gary Volchansky ('12), Mark Andrews, Tim Metzger ('14-'16), Eddy Sanchez ('12), Kayla Babson ('10-'11), Rod Tolen ('15-'16), Megan Eden ('13-'15), Paxton Fitzpatrick ('15). **Front row:** Marcia (Ward) Barrie ('08-'09), Kim Beisel ('16-'17), Larissa (Dickson) Hosang ('15-'17), Nicole Hopkins ('11-'12), Alyssa (Arcadi) Boyd ('12-'13), Alena Egense ('09-'10), Lilly (Haagenson) Tolen ('15-'16), Jackie Romero ('12-'13).



Former students from 2016 and spouses gather for a photo. (L to R) Val & Jake Middleton, Nate Schmidt, Anthony Legg, Alyssa (McMahon) & Andrew Mickschl.



(L to R) Former interns gather with Marion Parker. Julie Shapland ('04-'06), Jeanette Miller ('04-'06), Amber Tippett ('03-'05), Marion Parker, Daphne Huffman ('95-'97), Mike Tippett ('02-'04). Amber and Daphne are currently serving on CER's Board of Directors.



Former intern Dru Solberg ('14-'15) catches up with former student Megan Moreno ('14-'15). Dru is the founder of FreeStyle Production, a video marketing service based in Seattle, WA, and returned to do media coverage for the event.



Long-time friends of the ministry enjoy a meal with former Ranch family. (L to R) Anne Fairbairn, Chad Zeno, Walter & Maria Hill, Tom Kern, Gina Woods, Erin and Stan Thomas-Rose.

Jim Parker Student Scholarship Fund

At the 50th Anniversary Celebration, we set a new organizational anchor point by elevating the visibility of our student financial aid fund and naming it the Jim Parker Student Scholarship Fund. We will never value a young person based on the money that comes with them, which means we will never turn away a potential student because of inability to pay. Long-time Ranch leader Jim Parker exemplified the daily pursuit of extending Christ's love to each person around him. We want this legacy to define the Ranch as long as it exists.



Former intern/staff Tim Metzger passes the frisbee to former student Micah Konyha in the current Ranch family vs former Ranch family Ultimate frisbee game.



Broken Fork BBQ Co. catered the Saturday evening meal.



CER's former Executive Directors and Director's wives share from the stage Saturday evening. (L to R): Anita Cecil, Marion Parker, Mike Petrillo, Mark Andrews, Chuck Boatman, and current Executive Director Nate Boyd.

Future goals

- Continue to renovate and build out the Meadow facility in order to bless and connect with more churches and families
- Complete the duplex remodel
- Beautify the front entrance
- Add another residence
- Remodel the downstairs of the lodge building, widening the hall, moving the bathrooms and the front door, optimizing the layout.
- Re-open transitional houses
- Fill up every open bed

Christian Encounter Ranch
PO Box 1022
Grass Valley, CA 95945

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*50th anniversary weekend
coverage inside!*

Christian Encounter Ranch is a non-profit, non-denominational, residential community helping 15- to 24-year-olds by providing love, spiritual guidance, high school education, counseling, and 24-hour supervision. Internships are offered to young adults 21 years and older. We are a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, and all gifts are tax deductible.

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MEMORIALS

In memory of Alison Arcadi, given by:
Nate & Alyssa Boyd

In memory of Jane Guiremand, given by:
Nate & Alyssa Boyd

In memory of Ed Haury, given by:
Bill & Diane Haury

In memory of Jim Parker, given by:
Nate & Alyssa Boyd

In memory of Bill Peterson, given by:
Lynette Otis
Carol Baker

50 years (cont. from pg. 1)

We have much more work to do to prepare and strengthen. We have many goals, both big and small, and a lot to do to achieve them. And so, I want to ask you to join us: ride, serve, give.

Ride in the Agony. The Agony website just switched over to 2022, and I just signed up. Come ride with me in the 40th Annual Agony Ride!

Serve this community, with the gifts God's given you. We have a great list of projects to tackle! If you're not sure how to get involved, fill out a volunteer interest form online.

Give. If you feel a tug in your heart to give, I encourage you to give to the new "Jim Parker Student Scholarship Fund." (see page 3)

As Jesus said, the fields are white with the harvest. Walk with us into them.

You, this community, has made all the difference for the Ranch. Thank you!

Nate Boyd, Executive Director



To watch/listen to the 50th anniversary Saturday evening program (pictured left) in its entirety, visit our website.