

# EAGLE'S WINGS NEWS

Volume 3

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www.EaglesWingsRetreatCenter.org

September 2007

## Recent Donations Total \$436,000

Recent gifts and pledges presented to Eagle's Wings Retreat Center total over \$436,000.00 according to Joe Noonan, president of the Eagle's Wings board.

Six separate gifts have been received and include a combination of cash, goods and services and pledges. "We are overwhelmed with the generosity of these groups and

individuals", said Noonan in announcing the gifts. "These gifts each represent giant steps toward the ultimate goal of the main campus" said Noonan.

Included in the gifts is the donation of an additional 21 acres of land to the Center. This donation includes land where the main campus will be built. Title to the land was transferred from Curt and Katie Haffner to the corporation in early August. This brings the total land ownership to 45 acres and insures that the Retreat Center board of directors will be able to make long-term plans for the future.

Cash donations included a single anonymous donation of \$80,000 and a pledge of \$125,000 to be paid over five years from St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Austin.

Matous Construction of Belton has donated the installation of the upstream water and wastewater system. Steve Dobos of The Butler Weldments Corp. donated the pipe. Another donation of service was received when Edward Arevalo and his two high school aged sons, Edward and Jeffery, donated additional survey work for roads and utilities at the main campus site.

The next part of infrastructure construction will include grading roads and electrical utilities.



A week long stay in a three bedroom cottage such as this will be presented to some lucky winner in the 2007 Eagle's Wings Retreat Center Raffle.

## Vacation, Hunt, Gift Card Top Prizes

A giant raffle is currently underway to generate funds for the construction of the main campus at Eagle's Wings Retreat Center. Three lucky people will be drawn as winners. Prizes include a seven-night stay at the Owners Club on Hilton Head Island; a trophy exotic big game hunt; and a \$750.00 Wal-Mart gift card.

Winners will be drawn Dec. 2, 2007 and will be contacted in the order they are drawn. The first place winner will receive his/her choice; second place will receive choice of the remaining two prizes and third person will receive the final prize.

The Hilton Head package includes one week in 2008. Winner of the week will need to give at least 3 dates to the Owners Club manager. The sooner those dates are submitted the better the chance of getting the first choice. After the week is booked, the Owners Club will send a packet of information about services and activities on the island. There will be no charge, of course, for the week's stay at

the "cottage" (3 bedrooms, 3 baths). Jim and Jan Lundbeck of Temple donated this package.

The exotic big game hunt will include a two-day hunt and will include the harvest of a single mature axis, fallow, or blackbuck. Archery or rifles may be used and two nights lodging and meals are included in the package. Steve Fox of Leander and a member of St. Thomas More donated this package.

The \$750.00 Wal-Mart gift card was donated by the Marble Falls Wal-Mart Super center.

Many youth groups are selling raffle tickets and special prizes will be awarded to all individuals who sell at least 100 tickets; the individual who sells the most tickets and the three individuals who sell the winning tickets. A two-night retreat for 40 people will be awarded to the group that sells the most tickets.

For more information or to sign up to sell tickets contact Don Comedy at 830.693.3160 or don@ewrc.org.



### SERVICE PROJECT

A group from Saint Thomas More recently gathered at Eagle's Wings for a service project. There are always opportunities for service projects at the Center and groups and individuals are asked to call or email to sign up for a project. 512.715.0017 or katie@eagleswingsretreatcenter.org.



## Spiritual Health Is Important

By Katie Haffner

In his book, "The Vision of Catholic Youth Ministry," Sean Reynolds says, "Catholic youth, like their parents, hunger for a break in the action, a bit of solitude,

### WISH LIST

#### Small Items:

White plastic folding chairs (we need 50 so call for an exact description so they will match)

Tree loppers, gas powered weed whips, heavy-duty wire cutters, pitchforks, wheelbarrows and hammers

#### Large Items:

Back Hoe (gift, loan or pay for lease)

Trailer for construction site

Covered BBQ area and concrete pad or paved grilling area

### Donations

Donations to Eagle's Wings Retreat Center, Inc. are tax deductible. EWRC is a 501(C)(3) tax-exempt organization.

Donations can be made in the following ways:

1. Mail your check to EWRC, PO Box 248, Burnet, TX 78611.
2. Credit Card by calling 512.715.0017
3. Pay Pal at [www.EaglesWingsRetreatCenter.org/Donations.htm](http://www.EaglesWingsRetreatCenter.org/Donations.htm)
4. Bank draft by requesting forms.
5. Remember EWRC in your will or estate plan

and time for reflection". Could that hunger be one of the more serious illnesses of today's society?

We all probably contribute to many good causes: cures for cancer, heart disease research, high-risk youth and the poor and disadvantaged. These are all very worthwhile causes but how about the spiritually disadvantaged, those that hunger for solitude and time for reflection? One possible way our youth can be cured of this hunger is by "taking a break in the action" at a spiritual retreat center.

Are we not **spiritual** and natural beings? If we are willing to fund the next cure for cancer for our physical bodies, shouldn't we place an equal importance on a cure for our spiritual health? I read an article recently about how we should make choices in our busy lives. Our choices should meet two criteria: 1.) Will God think your choice is meaningful & beautiful? 2.) Does your choice have eternal significance? Eternal significance...Hmmmm. What value do I place on saving spiritual souls?

Makes you think, doesn't it?

### Never been to EWRC?

Call to schedule a visit and tour. Bring the family and a picnic lunch and enjoy some quality time in a beautiful setting.

## Retreat Schedule

Oct. 6-7 St. Luke's Keysis

Oct. 13-14 St. Mary Assumption  
West, Texas

Oct. 19-21 St. Luke's Men's Group

Oct. 25 - 27 Dental Business Meeting  
Dr. Busch

Nov. 3-4 St. Mary's Catholic Church  
Lampasas - youth group

Nov. 9 - 11 St. Thomas More  
Families in Faith

Nov. 27 St. Theresa School

Nov. 30- Dec. 2 - St. Ignatious  
Austin - youth group

Dec. 8 Women's Retreat led by "Max"  
& Pat Stankus



### EAGLE PROJECT

Brad Billac (with level) recently completed a low level challenge course and two compass courses at the Retreat Center. These projects were a part of his Eagle Scout project. Brad is a member of Burnet Troop 282 and planned and designed the project. He had assistance in the actual construction but served as the project manager. He attends Hill Country Fellowship Church in Burnet.

### DON LOGAN

Don Logan, longtime friend of Eagle's Wings lost a lingering battle with cancer on April 23, 2007. Licensed as both architect and engineer, he donated services as well as recruited and secured numerous other professional's assistance in creating the master plan for Eagle's Wings.

Earlier this year the Board of Directors of Eagle's Wings decided to name the street in the dorm area of the new main campus Logan's Way in his honor.



## Work Continues On Main Campus

Work on water and sewer mains is progressing nicely at the site of the new main campus at EWRC. Additional survey work is underway preparing for the beginning of road work. The road work will begin with the installation of culverts and grading. Electric utility work will also begin soon.

Honor someone you love on their  
Birthday,  
Anniversary or other  
special occasion with a  
memorial gift to  
Eagle's Wings.

# We're Looking for Partners

**Join Us and We Both Win!**

**We Are Having A Raffle To Help Build New Buildings**

**Prizes:**

**Week in Hilton Head - Trophy Exotic Hunt -  
\$750.00 Wal-Mart Gift Card**

**Help Us Sell Tickets And**

# You Can Win Too!

**Sell At Least  
100 Tickets  
Win A  
\$50 Walmart  
Gift Card**  
an individual may win  
only one prize

**Sell The Most  
Tickets  
Win A  
\$100  
Walmart  
Gift Card**  
an individual may win  
only one prize

**Sell A  
Winning Ticket  
Win A  
\$50 Walmart  
Gift Card**  
an individual may win  
only one prize

**Group That Sells  
The Most  
Tickets Wins  
A Free  
2 Night  
Retreat  
For 40 People At  
Eagle's Wings  
(meals not included)**

**Tickets will be sold Sept. 1 - Nov. 30  
Drawing will be held Dec. 2, 2007**

**Contact: Don Comedy to signup - 830-693-3160  
don@EWRC.Org**

# Volunteer To Be Part of Eagle's Wings

By Joe Noonan  
EWRC President

Looking back is usually fun. Looking to the future is sometimes scary. As I look back at the past 3 1/2 years at Eagle's Wings it has been fun, hard work, and spiritual. But most of all it has been a very gratifying experience seeing things come together

and seeing our youth experience Jesus Christ in these wonderful surroundings. As we make progress on the infrastructure for the main campus it is quite exciting to see things come together for the future of our youth. The workload of getting everything done is overwhelming. At some point in the future we will actually need to

hire people to help us run the retreat center but for now we continue to do almost everything with volunteer help which of course helps us keep our fees down to a minimum. In an effort to help alleviate some of the workload at Eagle's Wings we have identified several routine tasks that could help us tremendously by freeing up our time to work on the many other things that need to be done. If you or your entire family would like to volunteer for one of these tasks or want to know more about them please contact Joe@eagleswingsretreatcenter.org or Katie@eagleswingsretreatcenter.org or 512-715-0017.

If it would be nice to have several families on each task so they can share the workload. If we have 2-4 families per task then the trips to Eagle's Wings of course is reduced per family.

- Mow & trim around Eagle's Nest
- Maintain Marian Grotto area
- Maintain Stations of the Cross Path
- Maintain Outdoor Chapel Area
- Maintain front entrance
- Maintenance of Meditation Trail
- Chainsaw down trees and dead limbs
- Handyman working on fixing things



## EMMAUS - LAKEWAY

Youth from Emmaus Catholic Church in Lakeway attended a retreat at the Center in mid-August. It was their first visit and from the smiles looks like they enjoyed it.

# The Vision To See Forward

By Curt Haffner  
EWRC Executive Director

I recently attended a "Leadership Summit" held in Barrington, Illinois. I was tired and concerned about what our next steps should be at Eagle's Wings. I thought a little time for reflection at a conference would be good. I have come to believe that God has a purpose for most of the activities we choose to participate in. God did not waste any time making it perfectly clear what His purpose was for me at this conference.

The opening talk was titled "A Vision To Die For" and the basis for the talk was derived from John 10:11-13. "The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd who

owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters the flock. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing

## IRA Distribution Deadline Nearing For No Tax Gifting

A two year window which allows for certain types of transfers of IRA distributions to tax exempt organizations will end this December 31.

The strategy is available to persons 70 1/2 years old and older and allows them to support Eagle's Wings and bypass taxes.

To learn more please contact Eagle's Wings Retreat Center at 512-715-0017 or your personal tax planner.

for the sheep".

A question was asked by the speaker; "Do you own the vision God has given you or are you a hired hand" Are you willing to give your life for the vision God has given you or will you leave it when the going gets tough?" I knew God had just spoken to me.

He wanted me to know that the vision of Eagle's Wings was real and that His plans for the retreat center would unfold. We are to be His hands, His feet and His eyes. Our call is to be faithful to Him by owning the vision and trust that He will provide for His retreat center. Come and be a part of the vision! Join a growing team of people who are actively engaged in building the Body of Christ.

# We Live In A Rapidly Changing World

By Don Comedy

EWRC Development Director

Have you noticed how fast the world is changing?

Ten years ago Al Gore had barely invented the Internet ☺ and now Google is getting 2.7 BILLION questions a month. **WHO answered those questions before Google?** The number of text messages sent every day exceeds the total population of the planet. **WHO get's the extras?**

One week's issues of the New York Times is said to contain more information than a person was exposed to during their entire lifetime during the 1800's. **HOW bored were they?** Estimates indicate that in 2013 a super computer will exceed human brain function. **CAN I stop thinking then?** Last year 1 in 8 couples that were married met online. **HOW did I ever find my perfect mate without eharmony?** There are over 106 MILLION registered MySpace users

and if MySpace were a country, it would be the 11th largest country in the world. **CAN I live there and not pay taxes?** Our teachers are currently preparing students for jobs that do not yet exist, using technologies that haven't been invented to solve problems we don't even know are problems. **HUH?**

I don't know about you, but some of that boggles my mind.

But, there is comfort in the fact that for the past 2,000 years one thing hasn't changed. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16 NKJV

What a great time we live in to be able to witness all these changes and at the same time share that message of eternal salvation. What a great opportunity we have with Eagle's Wings to be part of making that same message come alive.

Good things are happening at Eagle's Wings and you can make them better. Come join us.



In June Girl Scout troops from Llano, Burnet, and Bertram returned to Eagle's Wings for three days of day-camp. Ten adult leaders and over 40 girls attended. If you would like more information on Girl Scouts or becoming a leader, please contact Christi Johnson at (325) 247-5241.



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