

CROSSMAN MINISTRIES BATTLE RIVER RANCH CAMP



IT'S BEEN A YEAR FULL OF
INCREDIBLE BLESSING,
CHALLENGES AND PROOF OF
GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTORS

Trying to wrap our heads around the fact that another year has come and gone and there is so much to be thankful for and excited about. Seems like I was just starting a new journal and now it tells me there's only a few days till Christmas. Going back some years and reflecting on when we lived our lives without any real purpose and the only real excitement of a year gone by, was the New Year's Eve party. Don't get us wrong, we love a good party as much as anyone, but it's the purpose of the party that has to count for something. Our children need to know that we as parents need to honor God with all our lives and to make positive, life giving choices. How many people don't know that. You can have the time of your life without alcohol.

You can find a way to rebuild a relationship; there is hope. Selfishness is the root of all social problems and the best choice of all is you can call out for Jesus to save you ANYTIME. We have been through an incredible journey of challenge and growth out at the ranch this year. A year that has brought everyone involved so much closer to God and each other. A year and a half ago the property that the ranch lies on was a barren piece of pasture land and today has infra structure, power, gas, water and sewer, a huge shop, office and meeting facility, and a new lodge. We can think and dream small, but when we think and dream incredibly large, God will and does bless it all. God places visions and dreams in all of us and it is so sad to see that most dreams and hopes will be

buried out in the back graveyard because of fear. We encourage each and everyone to step out of the boat, out of your comfort zone, out of your man-made security and into God's provision and excitement of miracles and new beginnings.

-Harold & Diane Stephan



PHOTOS FROM THIS YEAR



As I make my weekly stops at local businesses, there are many times I could just quit, go home and not bother another business or person for help to build this place of hope. It was probably my own feelings of inadequacy and always questioning GOD, " why me. I just don't feel I have what it takes". Then one day as I was driving past a business that I was not familiar with, God made me stop and backup, against my will of course, but back we went. I walked into the front office and asked to speak with the manager. He was right beside me and invited me into his office. I told him who I was and a bit about the ranch. He seemed to be pretty up-to-date on the ranch. He asked what he could do to help, so I explained what was needed for the lodge and shared a list of other needed supplies and materials. He then went to a place I never expected. For a minute he shared that the ranch would be and do all it's meant to do, but what we were doing for this community was more important than we knew. He said that sometimes, we in this community, tend to be hard, cold and often tight with our giving. He said don't stop doing what you are doing because it helps to warm and soften the hearts of all of us in our community. He also donated everything I asked for. Boy, God is so good all the time.

A Glimpse of 2011 at BRRC

Starting the year with our new shop closed in and able to be used, we turned our focus to the lodge. The footings were poured in the fall, well cured and ready to go. The basement walls went up very well and thanks to the many, many volunteers, the lodge began to take shape. Once the basement was completed, we moved up to the next

level. Kind of like our lives. It's not till we have the courage to move on and up to the next level, that we start to see more clearly from a higher level or from higher ground, that there is so much more to this life that God has so abundantly blessed each and every one of us with. As the main floor was built and erected, we could start to see the many lives that

would be impacted for God just by the young and older volunteers that brought such positive dynamics to the work place. Mentorship and teaching was happening all over the place as we watched wisdom and love being poured into listening lives and hearts.

THE LODGE

July 18, the ranch lodge was destroyed by a terrible storm and we were left with a pile of rubble where only hours before was a constructed lodge. As we did the only thing we could do, we drew nearer to our Lord and Savior for strength and understanding to carry us through this time. We seemed to have paid so much for insurance but it was not adequate for this type of disaster. So after two weeks of meetings and inspections we needed to move ahead.



JULY 18, 2011 AFTERMATH



BIKERS TO THE RESCUE



THE LODGE TODAY!

August long weekend, just two weeks later, plans had been in place for a regional Christian Motor Cycle Association rally at the ranch, which at one point we suggested to cancel and have it elsewhere as we were in such a mess at the ranch. But, in the only way that God works, the rally was changed to include a massive cleanup and salvage operation like no other. Men and women from across Western Canada came by semi, motorcycle, and auto. Pay loaders and cranes were in place and food by the truck loads started to arrive. Hope on wheels started to roll onto the property of Battle River Ranch Camp as early as Wednesday. Men and women worked side by side to be the hands and hearts of God. Evenings we were blessed by the LGF Worship Band and Sunday we headed up to Onion Lake to share and minister at Pastor Martin's church and I tell you do these people love Jesus.

By the end of August, walls were going back up on the new lodge and our community was behind us. Our local news media was with us all the way and covered the disaster and the rebuild. Church leaders encouraged us with support and prayer. One pastor said the ranch is about building and rebuilding lives. As the world travels by each and every day, they will see by example what

we are made of, as we work together to recover and rebuild the lodge. By the end of September, the second floor was well on the way to being constructed and set in place. Beams recovered from the rubble were restored and raised into place and rafters lifted and set and secured. Local contractors and businesses took time from their busy schedules to help get the lodge back on track by donating materials and helping.

By the end of October, the roof of the lodge was completed and inside framing was being done. The basement floor was prepped and ready for concrete. Beams and pillars were installed around the perimeter to secure the over hang. Bases for the perimeter of the deck were built. More people are just stopping in for information and giving donations all the time.



By the end of November, doors were installed and the roof shingled and electrical

was being installed and was nearing completion. We needed to have the lodge insulated and of course the best and strongest way would be to spray foam the entire building at a cost we could not afford. Then once again God has provided us with a huge blessing and a company that will insulate the entire building with spray foam for us. Our resources to finish the lodge, due to the disaster, have depleted and we are moving ahead a bit slower but yet ahead. God is suppling all our daily needs and each and every day we have work to do to keep the project moving ahead, PTL.

Each and every day since, we set foot on the land, donated to God's

vision of building confidence and purpose filled lives in men and women of our communities in the area of trades and basic life skills, very few days go by without a miracle or something to assure each of us that His love is complete and is there for each of us.

So many of you have done so much to provide a place of encouragement and hope where there seems to be

no hope. Diane and I, along with the Board of Directors of Battle River Ranch Camp, would like to thank each of you from the bottom of our hearts, and that we will do all we can and by the grace of God, create a place that will be such a blessing and help to many.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and a
HAPPY NEW YEAR



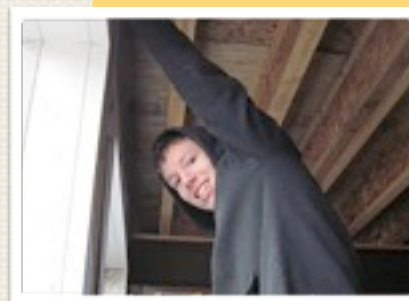
Miracles and Blessings

- Volunteers
- Equipment/furniture
- Building supplies
- Promotional material
- Food
- Horses, tack and supplies
- Funding and donations
- Speaking opportunities
- Encouragement and prayers

We are so thankful and

overwhelmed by the generosity of those who have contributed so much to keep the vision of the Battle River Ranch Camp alive and moving forward. The

number of donations and assistance is really to much to even list, but we want you all to know how much we appreciate all you've given and sacrificed. We pray that God will bless you abundantly in return.



Message from the Chairman

As another year wraps up and Winter sets in, we can stand back and look at the skyline of the Ranch and see the blessings God has bestowed on us this year. Every little aspect has a blessing and a story of the blessing in it. More and more people are joining us. Some for only a day, some for a week, others for a few months. We can always use help at any capacity or length of time. Never assume that someone is already doing what you can do or think you can do. We are asking you to come and join us and let God bless you through His ministry at the Battle River Ranch Camp. We appreciate and give thanks to all of those who have invested of themselves physically and financially this year. Every blessing you provide makes a difference.

Board Chairman for The Battle River
Bruce M. Alexander