

The Mission of Eagle's Wings Retreat Center is to serve Catholic and other Christian Youth

Eagle's Wings

And to provide a Christ centered retreat facility and environment.

Volume 1 Issue 3

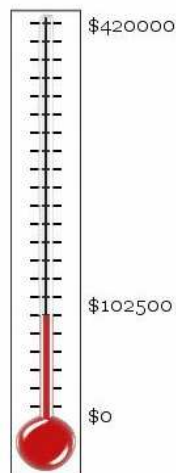
September 2005



The Challenge

When Curt & Katie Haffner bought their property over 20 months ago they donated 25 acres to Eagle's Wings Retreat Center Inc. We have made progress answering God's call to build a retreat center for our youth since January of 2004. Meeting and sleeping facilities for up to 40 have been completed. The Stations of the Cross, the Marian Grotto and the outdoor Chapel are now available for use. The detailed plans for the main campus are nearly complete and we have received some commitments for the needed infrastructure but we are still a long way from having the retreat campus that can serve large groups of youth in Central Texas. We need to raise 4.2 million dollars to build the main campus that will service up to 200 at a time and so we are kicking off a vigorous fund raising effort to achieve that goal.

Curt & Katie have challenged us all to raise 10% of this goal (\$420,000) and they will donate another 25-30 acres next to our current 25 acres. This would be a wonderful asset to what we already have and a great gift from Curt & Katie. Let's meet their challenge and start the momentum for building the main campus. If you do the numbers that's only \$1000 from 420 people. We are already a quarter of the way there in just 1 month. We can meet the goal but only with your help. **Please pray about how you can help us meet the challenge.**



Whether its \$10, \$100, \$1000, \$10,000 or \$100,000 it will all add up. The sooner we build it -----the sooner we can provide a place for more youth groups in Central Texas to have a retreat.

Make your check payable to Eagle's Wings Retreat Center with a memo marked "Challenge" Send to: Eagle's Wings Retreat Center, PO Box 248, Burnet, Tx 78611

Here's our current status against our goal. \$102,500 vs. \$420,000

Remember we can take donations with PayPal on our website. www.Eagleswingsretreatcenter.org

Pledges accepted also.

Eagle's Wings Quote Corner

"Weekend retreats are where spiritual changes take place. It takes a day to let go of all of the distractions and start opening up to God thru the Holy Spirit. The most profound spiritual changes seem to always take place on Saturday night...after the Sacrament of Reconciliation and during Adoration of the Eucharist. Our youth need to have a place to experience this. Eagle's Wings will be this place." Bruce Matous



Eagle's Wings Promotional Video Available

Diego Avila and several teens from different churches made a great DVD video of Eagle's Wings. If you are interested in seeing the video or having it shown to your church group, please contact either Curt Haffner 512-715-0017 or Mark Griffin at 512-984-6532. If you have broadband internet service you can also view it on the web.

www.eagleswingsretreatcenter.org

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The Bunkhouse at Eagle's Nest

Eagle's Nest was completed in late June and has been used for 3 retreats thus far. Our next step is to make the sleeping arrangements equal the meeting space so we have started construction of the bunkhouse. When complete we will have an additional 20-22 bed and 2 additional bathrooms so we can easily handle 40 people at Eagle's Nest.



The bunkhouse under construction sits next door to Eagle's Nest.

The bunkhouse was mostly funded through a nice memorial donation for Francis Monahan. Thank you to the Monahan family for making this building possible.

Expected opening date is October 2005.

Several small retreats have already been held at Eagle's Nest and several others have been booked so make your reservations soon. We now have sand volleyball, the bonfire pit, the Marian Grotto, the Stations of the Cross and the outdoor chapel as well as outdoor camping to compliment Eagle's Nest.

For Eagle's Nest reservations: Contact Curt or Katie Haffner at 512-715-0017 or email: Katie@eagleswingsretreatcenter.org

From the Desk of Katie Haffner President



Greetings from Eagle's Wings,

We are celebrating Thanksgiving early at Eagle's Wings. Since our last newsletter I thought it might be interesting to keep a journal of gratitude for all who are helping move this dream into a reality. I have to admit I stole my inspiration for making a thank you list from our past pastor of Our Mother of Sorrows, Father Joe DeVlieger, who in the weekly bulletin gave thanks to his parishioners for all the acts of kindness they provided during the previous week. When I originally started this gratitude journal for our next newsletter, Father Joe was alive and well. Suddenly on June 20th Father was taken home to Our Lord. My memory of Father Joe will always be that he was a priest who was most comfortable with his chosen vocation of the priesthood. God bless him. I dedicate this gratitude journal in memory of Father Joe.



Fr. Joe speaking to OMOS women at Eagle's Nest in June

I would like to begin with thanks to the St. Luke's couples Bible study group who came on an

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overnight service weekend. These wonderful men put steps on the back deck of Eagle's Nest and engineered and constructed the deck's porch roof. Meanwhile the women folk assembled a bench for the Marian grotto and cleared the area around our new statue of Mary.



The Marian Grotto makes for a wonderful prayer & meditation area.

Then these same women tackled the job of settling us into Eagle's Nest. The next thank you goes to the teens and adults from the parishes of St. Thomas More, St. Charles Borromeo and Our Mother of Sorrows who produced and starred in our new promotional DVD. Look for these new movie stars in our promotional DVD.

Our gratitude goes to the family who donated the refrigerator for Eagle's Nest. By the way, the space the refrigerator could fit in was only 30 ½ inches wide in our kitchen prep area. God does provide! The donated refrigerator was 30 ¼ inches. Also thank you to the family who donated the beautiful bookcases for Eagle's Nest.

Thanks for all the expertise provided with the electrical wiring, plumbing and surveying. Father Joe never mentioned names in his weekly thank you but I feel I must acknowledge three very special people for the ongoing success of Eagle's Wings. Thanks to Don Collier who keeps God's project on

schedule. Also Don Logan is a key man on the project team. Thanks to Joe Noonan who sacrifices almost every weekend to work at Eagle's Wings and does an endless amount of work from home.

The list goes on! Thanks to all who helped assemble the bunk beds and helped to install the flooring. Thanks to the special gentleman who donates so much of his talents during the weekdays. A special thanks to the lady who sat in the Marian grotto. She wrote a check immediately because she was so moved by the work of the body of Christ clearly visible at Eagle's Wings. St. Elizabeth's youth group deserves a pat on the back for spreading four truck loads of sand for our new volley ball court.



We continue to give thanks for the monetary donations that come in both large and small amounts. Special thanks go to our donors who regularly send monthly donations that provide Eagle's Wings with a dependable income. A big thank you goes to an estate gift that will partially fund the cost of the new bunk house.

So thanks, thanks, thanks! As you can see we've been busy. Keep the prayers coming!

Katie Haffner

"And He will raise you up on Eagle's Wings. Bear you on the breath of dawn. Make you to shine like the sun. And hold you in the palm of His hand,"

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Stations of the Cross



The granite markers have been placed at the stations.

The Stations of the Cross have been completed with the installation of the granite pictorial markers. The last step is to clear and line the path. This has been a labor of love from so many people and groups especially all the teens that have worked so hard to make this a beautiful place.

Editor - Joe Noonan

Eagle's Wings Retreat Center
PO Box 248
Burnet, Tx 78611

Eagle's Wings Ministry

St. Thomas More parish has just started a new ministry dedicated to making the Eagle's Wings Youth Retreat Center a reality and a success with support from volunteers who help develop plans, do service projects, help raise funds, help promote the retreat center and provide a resource pool of professional help. The mission of the ministry is to provide a parish organization to support the mission of Eagle's Wings Retreat, if you are interested in starting a ministry at your parish contact Bill Koederitz at 413-8453 or Mark Griffin at 984-6532

Items still needed:

Bunk Beds and Twin Mattresses

Additional Propane Hot Water Heater –

Contact Curt or Katie Haffner at 512-715-0017

Katie@eagleswingsretreatcenter.org

We are looking for a Teen to help write articles.

Contact Joe@eagleswingsretreatcenter.org
