I remember well October 21, 2007. God had given us beautiful weather for our Fall Men’s Retreat the day before. Men had been up on the hill using the skeet range throughout the day as well as doing lots of other outdoor activities. That night and into the morning of the 21st, we were hit with 60 mile per hour winds with gusts as high as 110 miles per hour that continued through the day. I remember thanking the Lord for His watch over us in that the wind did not hit during the retreat. Trees toppled, the largest 70-80 feet tall. In all, we lost some 30 trees total. We lost some parts of mobile home swingouts, but despite the number of trees that went down, none fell on a building. One fell parallel to our house and another fell perpendicular across the back. Even today as I sit in my office with the window looking out towards the field, I can see the tree line there where the tree fell. It is still there today. We have no damage to any buildings or structures on the Ranch property in these instances.

Matthew 5:45 says, “The good Samaritan helped the broken man. In the same way God directs it, and we rejoice that He chose to spare that tree today.”

We lost some parts of the equipment. The gate was undamaged as was all the equipment. In all, we lost some 30 trees total. We lost some parts of the swingouts, but despite the number of trees that went down, none fell on a building. One fell parallel to our house and another fell perpendicular across the back. Even the top of the tree next to the office fell onto another tree, breaking it but not touching the office or the First Aide house next to it. Last week, a camper told me we were hit with more 50 cent pieces in the mail, than I have ever owned, along with $26 to tabulate the results of the survey. Do you “Open Immediately,” or a survey where your opinion is needed with other assorted coins and dollar bills. All these tactics are designed to get you to open their letter and hopefully your wallet.

Do ‘they’ have your name? If you’re like me, you are inundated with junk mail from non-profit organizations and politicians. “URGENT,” “Deadline Approaching,” “Open Immediately,” or a survey where your opinion is needed along with $26 to tabulate the results of the survey. Do you receive pre-stamped envelopes? This past year I have received more 50 cent pieces in the mail, than I have ever owned, along with other assorted coins and dollar bills. All these tactics are designed to get you to open their letter and hopefully your wallet.

Victory Ranch does not participate in these tactics. Long ago, our board decided to abstain from this type of fund raising and let the Lord burden individuals and churches to give as they felt led by Him. Our mailing/email list is never bought or sold. We are pleased that you enjoy receiving updates on our website, www.vranch.org, or in this newsletter. We can even email this newsletter to you, saving this ministry postage. To be added to our e-mail or mailing list, or to be removed from any of our newsletter lists, just send us an email at vranchcamp@gmail.com.

Over the past four years, Bill & Kathy Goehring have been a tremendous blessing to this ministry. With a heart for ministry, Bill and Kathy volunteered in their local church and our sister camp, Camp Fairwood in Wisconsin. After retiring from secular employment, the Goehrings briefly joined Continental Baptist Missions until God brought them to Victory Ranch. Bill is one of those individuals who enjoys repairing things, and he has been instrumental in bringing the Ranch’s a/v and computer systems into the 21st century. He has a servant’s heart and gladly insists our guests call him at any time with any problem. As the saying goes, “behind every good man is a good woman.” Shortly after their arrival, Kathy’s father’s health took a turn for the worse. Kathy cared for him until she underwent a health crisis of her own when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Following surgery and precautionary treatments, she was declared to be in remission. Tests just two months ago said she was still doing fine. Having tremendous neck and back pain, Kathy went back to the doctors. After four days in the hospital and multiple tests, it was determined on July 20 that she had stage 4 cancer in her spine and bone marrow, and there were no treatment options.

On Sunday the 22nd, Kathy was able to have her picture taken outside their home with her husband, Bill, and their son, Joel. On Monday morning, July 23, with Bill and Joel holding her hands, she slipped into the presence of the Lord. Her services were held on August 4 in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin. We hope to have a memorial service here at the Ranch on Sunday afternoon, September 16. Please call for details. Keep Bill and Joel in your thoughts and prayers. Cards of encouragement can be sent to the Goehrings at the Ranch address.

From the Director’s Desk:

By Paul Cayot

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**Fall Ladies’ Retreat**

The theme for Fall Ladies’ Retreat is “Forgiven, Accepted, Loved” brought to us by Eileen Wood.

Music will be by Hannah Wood Henline

**Date:** October 5-6

**Cost:** $65.00

(See bio below)

The Retreat will be co-hosted by Trinity Baptist Church in Pasadena.

Our speaker, Eileen Wood, grew up in a Jewish home in Queens, NY, and calls herself a “Completed Jew.” She served as a Camp Director’s wife for 12 years and was an AWANA missionary in the Pacific Rim to Japan & Taiwan for 16 years. She has traveled extensively in the South Pacific encouraging other missionaries. Eileen is the mother of 3 children and has 3 granddaughters. As a retiree in Exeter, CA, she serves at her church in both AWANA and small group Bible studies.

**Ladies’ Retreat Activities Include:**

- Silent Auction (All proceeds go to benefit a Victory Ranch project as voted on by the ladies). If desired, craft items may be donated (to be sold to benefit the Ranch project).
- Table games, chapel, craft classes, horse rides, shooting range, swimming, great food and fellowship.

**Fall Men’s Retreat**

*October 19-20, 2018*

Pastor Anthony Forsyth from Calvary Baptist Church in Burbank will speak on “Trusting God in the Midst of the Storm.”

Pastor Forsyth is an excellent teacher and should be well received by both youth and adults. When we are in the Burbank area, my teenage children enjoy sitting under his teaching.

In addition to the list of sports competitions, the schedule and registration forms are available online by visiting www.vranch.org.

The popular men’s trio from the Sacramento area “Solid Ground” will be ministering in song. You can listen to them singing the “Star Spangled Banner” during flag raising last year on our website or you can listen to a preview on their webpage at www.solidground.us.

**Save the Dates**

**Spring Ladies Retreat**

March 8-9, 2019

**Spring Men’s Retreat**

March 22-23, 2019

**Family Fun Day**

April 6, 2019