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How in the world did the Ranch end up in Murfreesboro, Tennessee? Why not Texas or Minnesota? Bill and Cathy Rice had roots in Texas and had also considered building a camp on a lake property up north. Yet, they settled in Murfreesboro. Why? They came to Murfreesboro to reach the people of Murfreesboro!

You see, in 1950 my grandfather was invited by a pastor to the small town of Murfreesboro to hold revival meetings. It was, I suppose, part of God's plan in order to lead them to the spot that would become the Bill Rice Ranch. For the rest of his life, Bill Rice no longer took revival meetings elsewhere in the summer months; he held them here on the Ranch!

People have come here from across the country and from around the world! Groups came to us in the summer of 2009 from New England, New Mexico, the California Coast and the Bahamas. By God's grace, that scope of outreach will continue.

But around our home here in Rutherford County, we are a well-kept secret to many. I always take great delight in introducing the Ranch to our neighbors whenever I meet someone unfamiliar with the Ranch. In an antique store in little Nolensville, Tennessee, this past weekend, my wife and I talked to a lady who had no idea what was going on at the Ranch, though we are almost neighbors. She was obviously amazed as we told her about the summer we were having and why the Ranch exists.

While many of the old-timers in the area know us well, this area has grown incredibly since our start in 1950. Rutherford County is part of the hub of the Mid South. Looking at an area website the other day, I read that "the U.S. Census Bureau announced...Murfreesboro's population is now 101,753, enough to become the 12th fastest growing city in the nation during 2008." These are the people who brought us here in the first place, and they are increasing!

This is why we are so excited about a brand new outreach that we will launch in the summer of 2010. The Lord willing, we will run an area-wide Day Camp the week of June 21-25, 2010.

Elementary-aged boys and girls will come in the morning, spend the day on the Ranch, and then go home each evening. Our intent is to reach boys and girls with the gospel, and our prayer is that this will give us inroads with many of our neighbors across the area.

Would you please pray with us about this venture? We have been thinking about doing this for at least four years now, have talked to other preachers such as my pastor and other friends, and have prayed for clear direction. I believe that the Lord has given us that direction, and we certainly need real wisdom as we prepare for this new outreach.

Earlier this summer, my neighbor, Mr. Carl Purple, was running a Ranch errand in town. When he left a gospel tract the Ranch printed with the store manager and a customer, the customer informed Mr. Purple that he had done some work on my grandfather's house here more than thirty-five years ago. Mr. Purple said, "Well, has anyone ever showed you how to know that you are saved?"

"Why, yes," the man replied. "Bill Rice told me how to be saved when I was out there to work on his house!"

In the next twelve months, we will be involved in revival work in California; we will be spearheading an evangelistic outreach in New York City; we will be sponsoring Deaf Camp in the Philippines; and we will be reaching out to Murfreesboro, Tennessee! This is our home. These people are our neighbors, and they are why we call this home.





I'm Tired

by Evangelist Bill Rice III

Not to worry—it's summer. You know what that means? Well, here at the Ranch it means:

- 7:00 GET UP! FOR JUNIORS, TEENS, AND DEAF YOUNG PEOPLE.
 - 7:30 FLAG RAISING FOR JUNIORS. DEAF GO TO DEVOTIONS IN THE ROBERSON AUDITORIUM. TEENS GO TO DEVOTIONS IN THE JOHN R. RICE AUDITORIUM (GIRLS) OR THE RODEO ARENA (BOYS).
 - 7:50 TEENS TO BREAKFAST IN THE DINING HALL. DEAF GO TO BREAKFAST IN THE TENNESSEE ROOM. JUNIORS HAVE BREAKFAST ON THE PATIO.
 - 8:20 COUNSELORS' MEETING IN THE WEBBER AUDITORIUM.
 - 9:15 SERVICE FOR TEENS IN THE JOHN R. DEAF GO TO THE SERVICE IN THE ROBERSON. JUNIORS GO TO THE ILLUSTRATED MESSAGE AT THE RODEO ARENA.
 - 9:45 JUNIOR GIRLS' SWIM TIME. JUNIOR BOYS HAVE "ROUND UP" AT COWBOY TOWN.
 - 10:15 "MORNING BREAK" FOR DEAF TEENS AND HEARING TEENS. JUNIOR BOYS GO TO BIBLE BASIC TRAINING.
- Getting weary in well doing?
- 10:45 JUNIOR BOYS GO TO THE POOL. GIRLS GO TO COWBOY TOWN.

- 11:00 SERVICE IN THE JOHN R. FOR TEENS.
- 11:15 CLASS FOR DEAF TEENAGERS. JUNIOR GIRLS GO TO BIBLE BASIC TRAINING.
- 11:50 BIBLE DRAMA FOR THE DEAF.
- 12:00 AMERICAN HERITAGE IN THE WEBBER AUDITORIUM FOR JUNIORS. LUNCH IN THE DINING HALL FOR TEENS. LUNCH FOR THE DEAF IN THE TENNESSEE ROOM.
- 12:15 LUNCH FOR JUNIORS IN THE DINING HALL.

That is enough, isn't it? Well, no. During the afternoons throughout the week there is:

SOFTBALL, VOLLEYBALL, BASKETBALL, FOOTBALL, COWBOY TOWN, POOL, HIKES, TRAIL RIDES, COOKOUTS, ARENA GAMES, IRON-MAN RELAY, OUTBACK OBSTACLE COURSE, SPONGE WAR, PENTATHLON, FROG RACE, RODEOS ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, WATER OLYMPICS, AND WHACKY WARS!

There is more, but I'm quitting here; or we will both have to go take a nap!

Actually, I am not tired because I am not personally involved in all of this stuff. There are over 120 people here on the Ranch that supervise, help, or have a part in one of the activities I have mentioned and several I have not.

Everything we do at the Ranch we do in light of what we believe camp is. **CAMP** is a **Controlled Atmosphere** for the **Ministry of Preaching**. Last Wednesday night, almost 600 of us were in the revival service in the John R. Rice Auditorium. A little more than 200 met in the Webber Auditorium for services with the

juniors, and more than 50 met in the Roberson Auditorium for the music and message for those who are deaf. During this week (which is not complete), we have had eighteen juniors trust Christ as Savior, four teens trust the Lord, and thirteen deaf accept Christ.

Last week in a wonderful service on Thursday morning, 149 teenagers responded at the invitation and prayed with counselors about various needs in their lives.

It's worth getting tired over, wouldn't you say? Let me mention three things. First, please do pray for us. Busyness is one thing; the purpose of our busyness is quite another. All of our scurrying around is useless without the Lord protecting, providing, and directing the ministry here. Please do pray for us.

The second thing I want to say is, thank you so much for helping us make this ministry possible. So many of you who are reading this have supported the Ranch financially in days past, and I am confident that you will continue in the future. Please do.

And the last thing I want to say is, come see us. I forgot to mention in telling you some of our schedule that from 1:00 in the afternoon until just a few minutes before 2:00, we have "rest period" on the Ranch. When you come, you can take advantage of that!

Attention Youth Leaders!

Don't forget about



—the best way to secure the week you want for 2010!

FAST TRACK is a special program that we have offered for a number of years at the Ranch. With space more limited next summer, **FAST TRACK** will help you secure the week you want. It will also help us plan.

ALL YOUTH/JUNIOR/DEAF WEEKS IN JUNE OR JULY!

Summer 2010 Schedule

- JUNE 13-18** Junior I, Youth I, Deaf I
- JUNE 21-25** Day Camp (local outreach)
- JUNE 27-JULY 2** Junior II, Youth II, Deaf II
- JULY 4-8** Junior III, Family I
- JULY 11-16** Junior IV, Youth III, Deaf III
- JULY 18-23** Junior V, Youth IV, Deaf IV
- JULY 25-30** Junior VI, Youth V, Deaf V
- AUGUST 1-5** Family II, Sign Language School, Deaf Adult Conference

FAST TRACK opens August 1 and closes September 30. Contact the registrar *today* for a **FAST TRACK** flyer.

BACK AT THE RANCH...

Summer in Full Swing We thank the Lord for the many people He has brought our way this summer from California to New Hampshire, from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan all the way down to the Bahamas, and from so many places in between!



Ministry Today, Ministry Tomorrow

As I was standing in the John R. Rice Auditorium, a teenage boy came up to me and abruptly said, "Hey, do you see that guy over there?" He pointed to another teenage young man, Justin, whom I had met earlier in that camp week. "Yes," I replied. "Why?"

"He led me to the Lord!"

When I asked him for more details, he told me a brief story about how Justin had approached him and asked if he were saved. (They were in the same cabin though not from the same church.) Their encounter ended with the young man trusting Christ as Savior. He was so excited about what had happened. Justin was going to be a preacher, he told me, and a good one at that! "By the way," he asked, "could Justin preach tonight?"

You're probably guessing correctly that Justin didn't preach that night...maybe someday.

This was one of at least two occurrences when teenagers were led to the Lord by fellow campers this summer at the Ranch. One other camper trusted Christ as Savior by himself because of a conversation he had with friends from his church after a Youth Week service. It's great to see young people being used of the Lord to win other young people to Christ!

I was especially impressed with Justin. Apparently God has called him to preach, but

the opportunities to preach have been few so far, I suppose. I think he's only sixteen. But just because God hasn't fulfilled *all* of His will in you yet does not mean you cannot use the opportunities he *has* given you!

That encourages my heart when I think about West Branch. We know the Lord has called us to work with churches of the Southwest. That work has been and will be done largely through camp programs. However, right now our transition continues with ministry through other avenues. Our spring **West Branch on the Move** conferences in Arizona were well attended and appreciated. Our ministry this summer in Tennessee has not merely kept us busy, but has given us direct contact with hundreds of campers, including quite a few from out West. In fact, one of the campers I mentioned in this article is from New Mexico.

Thank God that while you are waiting to see Him fulfill what He has called you to do, you can keep doing what He leads you to do!

On the development front, we are making progress. Friends have stepped up to help us in our quest for information. We now know what we need to do for water supply on the new site. Based on current information and options, we hope to soon decide the precise sanitation direction we need to take. Then we can modify our site plan with the City of Williams and

ask God to provide specific needs (things like water tanks, excavation work, HPDE, pumps, permits, and financial help). All of that is being worked on and is more promising than it has been for some time.



West Branch on the Move

Regional Youth Conference Phoenix, AZ September 12
Men on the Move Conference Fort Collins, CO October 23-24

Our ultimate goal is to see West Branch, the facility, established permanently in Northern Arizona in order to provide the kind of help that the Ranch gives in the East through Christian camping. Until then, we want to be just like Justin—ready to be used however we can be today!

Maybe Justin will preach at the Ranch someday. All things being equal, he will preach. Of course, you could make an argument that his willingness to be used of the Lord already has "preached"...to me at least. Thank God for a teenager who was willing to be used by the Lord today!

Ranch Work Projects — Friends Have Made a Difference!

This year, friends from far and near have given both time and money to help improve the facilities here at the Ranch.

Some have spent hours building, painting, repairing, digging, chopping, installing, sawing, etc. Some have been able to provide for projects like the paving and fencing at the front entrance. Others have done both the providing and installation, including air-conditioning equipment and new cabin windows.

Our primary renovation goal for this fall is the **2010 Air Conditioning Project**. Lord willing, all the camper rooms will be air conditioned for the summer of 2010. While the project is off to a good start, there is still much to be done.

- Installing of vents
- Running of duct work
- Installing and piping more units
- Installing new doors in the boys' cabins
- Replacing screens in Heidi Mount
- Other general labor

While much has been generously given, funds are still needed for the following equipment to complete the project:

- A/C units for Stallard: approx. \$5,000
- New doors for boys' cabins: approx. \$22,000
- Electrical work on boys' side of camp: approx. \$1,000

If you would be able to help financially or with labor, please let us know.

Contact Dale Stover, Ministries Coordinator 615-893-2767, ext. 105 dstover@billriceranch.org



Come to a Couples Retreat

this fall and enjoy some special time with your mate in a comfortable, Christ-honoring atmosphere! Bring your whole Sunday school class or a group from your church and see the Bible impact homes you care about!

November 5-7

SPEAKERS— *Nathan McConnell & Steve Schwanke*

December 3-5

SPEAKERS— *Bill Rice III & Wil Rice IV*

Register 5 or more couples
by September 30
and one couple comes FREE!

Needs at the Ranch

- Metal Chop Saw
- Jack Hammer (Electric or Air Compressor)
- Rock Drill
- Leather Sewing Machine
- Concrete Mixer
- Sheet Metal Brake
- Small Sized Self-propelled Road Grader* (needed for upkeep of cinder road at West Branch)

If you have a lead on any of these items or you would like to make a donation of one of these items to the Ranch, please contact Dale Stover, 615-893-2767, ext. 105 or dstover@billriceranch.org



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Bill Rice Ranch PUBLICATIONS



End of Summer Online Sale!

Go online for *special deals* from Bill Rice Ranch Publications. These special offers are only available from now until the end of August.

For the *lowest prices of the year*, visit www.billriceranch.org today!

Need a Little Refreshment?



Youth Conference

September 18-19

Speaker—Wil Rice IV

Designed for teens and those that lead them!



Ladies Retreat

October 15-17

Speakers—Mary Rice, Kathy Jackson

Hosted by Wil & Sena Rice

Be challenged with Bible truths in a relaxing atmosphere. Experience exciting Ranch activities including Midnight Madness at Cowboy Town and the Country Fair.



Wil Rice IV



Garvin Walls



Frank Gagliano

Men's Retreat

October 1-3

“It's the highlight of the year for our men's ministry!”

Pastor, Florida

“The preaching is excellent because it's applicable to a man's everyday life!”

Pastor, Missouri

Elementary Retreats

August 28-29 & September 11-12

Senior Adult Conference

September 24-26

Couples Retreats

November 5-7 & December 3-5



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