

the Ring Lake Carillon

RING LAKE RANCH • Dubois, Wyoming
an ecumenical retreat and conference center

Spring • 2006

Ring Lake Ranch Celebrates 40 Years!

Maggie Kahin had a vision. A vision and an invitation. In her words, There are hordes of tired people crowding our highways, parks and recreational facilities, searching for renewal in a few brief weeks, and the churches, by-and-large, are not responding. Are not these some of the poor of our time?

Build it and they will come could have been her motto. Maggie did build it, and every year since the first guests passed through the gate in 1966, thousands have come to experience the special place called Ring Lake Ranch, to find renewal in wilderness, to encounter God in the magnificence of the mountains.

That first summer guest book records sixteen visitors from Ohio, Massachusetts, Illinois, New York, Colorado and Wyoming. Today a typical summer finds 130-150 guests, plus a number of special groups attending seminars and retreats.

Summer 2006 marks the 40th anniversary of the Ranch, and we invite you to share in the summer-long commemoration. It will be a wonderful time--for reunions, for stories, for thanksgiving. And some surprises along the way!

Some of the special activities include a celebration June 19 - 24 of Henry Everding. Henry's life closely spanned that of the Ranch, and his untimely death last year cast a pall over all of us who knew him. Many of Henry's friends and family will come to honor his life and his lifelong connection and contributions to the Ranch's life.

Many longtime friends of the Ranch are planning to attend the seminar led by Gene Tucker July 30 - August 11

entitled *Renewal in Wilderness: Understanding Sacred Ground*. During the sharing time before dinner each evening, guests will be sharing their memories of Maggie and the early days of the Ranch. We plan to videotape these sessions for the Ranch archives.

An anniversary party is planned for August 5th. We will host an Open House and Barbecue for anyone who can come--from Dubois and afar. Many of Maggie old friends and her family will be there. It should be a glorious event, and we encourage your attendance.

And to top it off, Gary Keimig, Dubois artist, longtime board member and friend of Maggie and the Ranch, is creating a special anniversary painting to be auctioned off over the summer. Look for details on the web site.

Forty years is a significant milestone in the life of Ring Lake Ranch, and we invite you in whatever way you can to be part of the celebration. Come for an event. Come for a seminar.

Come for the party. If you are unable to be with us in person, send us your photos and remembrances.

Be present in some way during this joyous summer.

We'll leave the gate open for you!



~ Lin Knight

**for the Board of Directors of
Ring Lake Ranch**



WINTER AT RING LAKE RANCH

When I think of winter when I was growing up in Colorado it meant snow drifting down silently in the cold stillness of a winter landscape. Winter in Wyoming is neither still nor silent.

Fall here was beautiful, the lakes rimmed in gold, orange and red foliage. Flocks of mute swans converged on the lakes. Winter came the second week of October with high winds and cold. The wind here is unrelenting, it roars down the ridge, howling as it shatters through the trees. There were many sleepless nights here at the ranch because the wind was so loud.

Snowstorms come in a blinding white fury, blotting out the landscape. Then just as suddenly as they start, they are gone, any remnants of snow left on the ground quickly blown away by the wind. Temperatures as low as forty below zero were recorded here this winter. As the temperature drops, the ice layers covering the lakes grow and shift causing low level booms that can be heard and also felt, vibrating along the shores.

On the very rare occasion when the wind quiets and the ice is not shifting, there are other sounds to be heard. At night it is the hooting of owls and the yips of coyotes. During the day, the chirping of rosy finches foraging for food and herds of deer passing by the cabin headed for the meadow to graze.

Living here at the ranch in the winter is challenging. Ceaseless wind, cold, and short days have only a few hours of light. It also brings with it an awareness. You are completely conscious of the elements, of the landscape and of the beauty of this place.

~ Mary Murphy

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INTRODUCING!

Carl Koch our newest staff member. At its meeting last September the Board of Directors approved a position of Staff and Facilities Manager. The position was advertised in the Carillon and several of the Wyoming newspapers. Carl was selected from among the several applications which were received. This is a six-month position with responsibility for and oversight of the following areas: staff hiring and supervision, the horse program, food service, maintenance, housekeeping and hiking. Carl is already working with our Program Director, Joan Guntzelman, to hire this year's staff and make plans for opening the ranch in May.

Carl and his wife, Joyce Heil live in Wisconsin where Carl teaches at Viterbo University and directs a graduate program in servant leadership. He has extensive academic preparation with graduate degrees in English and religious studies. He has significant administrative experience at both the high school and university levels and has directed and/or presented numerous workshops and retreats especially in the areas of prayer and adult spirituality and servant leadership. Carl has also authored or co-authored many books and articles on these subjects.

We look forward to a productive and mutually beneficial working relationship with Carl Koch and Joyce Heil.

~ Dick McIntosh

President, Board of Directors



Check out our WEB SITE's new look!!!
Thanks to the generosity of
Sean Roche.
www.ringlake.org

Dear Friends Of Ring Lake Ranch,

ANCIENT VOICES

I sense it is near. It's just a feeling, but as I climb out onto the ledge, the feeling gets stronger. It feels right, reflective, special. Suddenly, as if through an evaporating mist, I see it. Two thousand years haven't diminished its subtle beauty, its message of wonder and awe still intact.

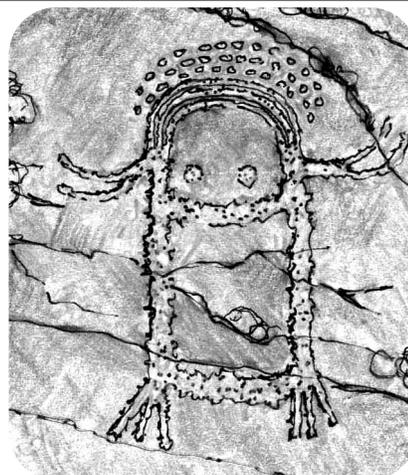
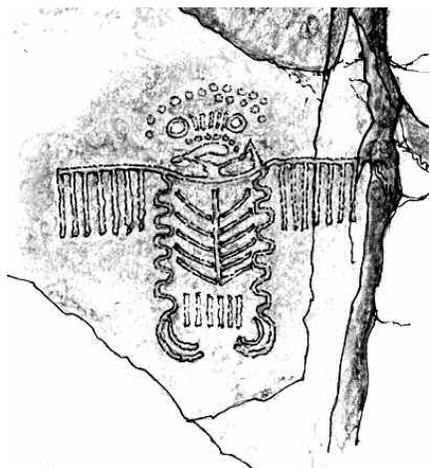
They are known today as petroglyphs. Some might say crude scratchings on rock by primitive man. Yet, though primitive by our standards, I'm convinced these ancient people had a vision, an understanding of their world that included the same questions that have pursued the human psyche since time began.

I see this art as their way of exploring these questions. Questions about a power far greater than oneself, within which one needed to play a part. As I look around, the sheer number of these artistic messages makes clear one other significant fact; for the ancients, this was sacred ground, a very special place that today we call Ring Lake Ranch.

Since discovering Ring Lake Ranch, I too have come to this same belief. My understanding of the natural world comes nowhere near the depth of understanding of this place that these ancients had. Yet my experiences here, the community of love, friendship, and spiritual food that is so abundantly offered, combines with these ancient voices to thoroughly convince me that, truly, I am standing on sacred ground.

I urge anyone reading this to come, explore, experience and partake of the wonder of this place. Having done so, I assure you that you will return. Just as the ancient ones time and again returned to express their love of this place through their artistic talents, so too can we express our love of this sacred ground through our involvement with and stewardship of Ring Lake Ranch.

~ Roger Strout
Member, Board of Directors



(sketches by Roger Strout)

NEW BOARD MEMBERS 2006

We're delighted to report that four new members began their tenure with the Ring Lake Ranch Board of Directors at the January, 2006 meeting.

Ed Everding has either taught or been a guest (with a love for hiking) at Ring Lake since 1976. With son Henry, he's trekked in Nepal, Bhutan, India and Spain. He is Emeritus Professor of Religious Education and New Testament at Iliff School of Theology.

Terri Tucker Schulz is a Conservation Ecologist with The Nature Conservancy of Colorado. Terri started coming to the Ranch when she was eleven years old, more than 30 years ago.

Beth Klucher of Boulder, CO, was recommended by Henry Everding to serve on the Board. Beth is a Manager at Ball Aerospace with a background in engineering and business/program management.

Nate Bachtell grew up as a guest and employee at Ring Lake starting in 1974, working as maintenance, wrangler, and assistant cook. He now works as an Internist in Portland, OR.

Ring Lake Ranch is blessed by the generous contributions of time, energy, and love given by those who serve and have served on the Board of Directors over the years.

A Ring Lake Reflection

"Awe is not a transferable emotion; it must strike each person individually, as he or she is moved."

**~Stephanie Kaza in
"The Attentive Heart"**

If we're open, the natural world speaks to us every moment, and is often the most provocative of awe.

WISH LIST

Along with on-going need for financial support, Ring Lake Ranch has need for the items below. If you have access to any of these items in good condition, please think of us.

Horse Support: Winter pasture costs are \$40 a month per horse.

New Vehicles: Any contributions to their purchase (already done) would be greatly appreciated.

~~Good table saw~~ received

Heavy duty weed whacker or brush cutter

Bob Cat small tractor for patching roads, mucking corrals, etc.

~~ATV~~ received

Chipping for the Ranch road

A floating dock

A winch for the truck

~~Digital camera~~ received

Automatic Defibrillator

Power Point Projector, Digital LCD



THE WINDS OF CHANGE

I was struck by Mary Murphy's article about the winds of winter here at the Ranch—how she expected quiet and was "blown away" by the almost constant roaring of the wind. As if the Wind River Mountains needed to live out the truth of their name, no matter what our expectations are.

How often life is that way. We assume things will remain the same, and they keep changing. Two thousand years ago Heraclitus wrote "There is nothing permanent except change." Each of us knows this to be true in our own lives, though we tend to live as though everything will remain the same.

The year of 2006 witnesses a spectrum of changes here at Ring Lake Ranch. As the Ranch turns 40, we work to stay true to Maggie's dream, which often can play out in some new and changing ways, through our varieties of seminars, groups, guests and staff. We continue to welcome many guests and staff who began coming in the Ranch's early days, as well as many more who have found it's blessings in later times.

We still grieve the loss of Henry Everding, who we will memorialize this summer, and whose spirit continues to be part of the Ranch.

In the area of Ranch Management we are moving to a three part shared responsibility structure. As noted in Dick McIntosh's article we welcome Carl Koch as our new Staff/Facilities Manager, as I shift my position to Program Manager, and Ann Mebane McWhirter remains Business and Finance Manager.

The old saying from the French tells us "the more things change, the more they remain the same." We ask your prayers and support that what needs to remain the same will do so—the values and vision that the Ranch lives by—and that we work with and support and grow through all that life asks us to change.

~ Joan Guntzelman

Henry Everding Memorial

As many of you already know, newly-elected president of the Board of Director's and long-time ranch affiliate, Henry Everding, was killed in February 2005 while climbing in Chile. His death has been a struggle for the many people who knew and loved him. At two pm, June 19, 2006, family and friends of Henry are invited to come together at the ranch for a memorial service and celebration of Henry's life. Participants are invited to arrive at the ranch on Sunday, June 18th, and can stay for as much of the week as they would like. The event is designed to provide everyone who is interested a time to tell stories, laugh, and grieve for the loss of Henry while being in a landscape he loved. Those interested should contact Ann Mebane for reservations (pika@tritnet.net, or (307)587-4597).

2006 SUMMER SCHEDULE

June 4 - 10 Available
June 19 Memorial for Henry Everding
June 20 - 24 Week open to celebrate Henry
with no formal evening sessions

July 2 - 8 PHIL WOGAMAN
PERIL AND PROMISE: RELIGION AND POLITICS

While religion and politics have always interacted to some extent, in recent years religion has become an unusually important battleground in American and world politics. The influence of religion in public life can be very dangerous, but it has been and can be a force for good as well. Dr. Wogaman will explore both the dangers and the hopeful possibilities.

PHILIP WOGAMAN is interim president and visiting professor of Christian ethics at Iliff School of Theology, and professor emeritus of Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. He is past president of the Society of Christian Ethics of the US and Canada, and has seventeen published books. In his ten year pastorate at the historic Foundry United Methodist Church in Washington, DC, he served as pastor to President Clinton and other political leaders of both parties.

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July 16 - 28 ROBERTA & RICHARD BONDI
SPIRITUALITY AND THE EMOTIONS

A look at five basic human emotions and their impact on our personal lives and spirituality. We'll examine how emotions affect our personal style and manner of being in the world, as well as our relationship to God and other persons. We'll then take a closer look at Anger, Depression, Anxiety, Contempt, and Joy. Our conversation will be informed by contemporary psychological studies, and by the Sayings of the Desert Fathers and Mothers of the early Christian Church.

ROBERTA BONDI is Professor of Church History, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, and author of numerous books.

RICHARD BONDI is a Pastoral Psychotherapist and the Executive Director of the Emmanuel Center for Pastoral Counseling, Atlanta, GA.

* * * * *

July 30 - Aug. 11 GENE TUCKER
**RENEWAL IN WILDERNESS:
UNDERSTANDING SACRED GROUND**

The 40th anniversary of Ring Lake Ranch is a good occasion to reflect on issues concerning sacred ground. Evidence in ancient artifacts as well as the experience of those who come to the Ranch show that it is a sacred place. This seminar will consider the meaning of sacred place in the Bible and various religious traditions, including those of Native Americans. Why are some places and lands considered holy and others not? How do these understandings and realities affect our spiritual and physical lives, and even our politics?

GENE TUCKER is Professor of Old Testament Emeritus of Candler School of Theology where he taught for 25 years. A graduate of Yale Divinity School and Yale University, Gene has authored or been the editor of 19 books. A United Methodist minister, Gene is active in the Society of Biblical Literature. An avid fisherman and outdoorsman, Gene is presently working on issues concerning the Bible and the environment. Long associated with Ring Lake Ranch, Gene served several terms as Board President.

August 13 - 19 CARTER HEYWARD

HORSES AS SPIRITUAL TEACHERS

In connecting with horses, both on the ground and riding, we'll explore some of the lessons these relationships offer. In addition to being with the horses, our time together will involve silence and contemplation, journaling, story-telling, and conversation.

CARTER HEYWARD, author of *Flying Changes: Horses as Spiritual Teachers* (2005), *God in the Balance: Christian Spirituality in Times of Terror* (2002), *Saving Jesus from Those Who Are Right: Rethinking What It Means to be Christian* (1999), and other books, is the Robbins Professor of Theology Emeritus at Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, MA.

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August 20 - 26 ESTHER DE WAAL
Mindfulness

To take time to be aware, attentive, mindful of the present moment, of our selves, of the world around us, is not a luxury. It is a necessity. In lives that are over-busy or pulled in too many directions, in a society that applauds over-work and awards the competitive, this seminar will challenge that, through words, the visual, the imagination, the use of poetry and photography. Most importantly will be time for silence.

ESTHER DEWAAL, an Anglican lay-woman, lives on the borders of England and Wales in the countryside where she grew up. She writes, travels and gives retreats, gardens and enjoys her increasing numbers of grandchildren. Her books include *Seeking God: The Way of St. Benedict*, *Living with Contradiction*, *Every Earthly Blessing*, *The Celtic Way of Prayer*, *The Way of Simplicity*, and *Lost in Wonder: The Spiritual Art of Attentioness*.

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August 27 - Sept. 2 MARCUS BORG AND
JOHN DOMINIC CROSSAN

JESUS AND PAUL

This seminar will address Jesus' vision of the Kingdom of God, and how Paul proclaimed it across and against the Roman Empire.

MARCUS BORG is Hunder, Distinguished Professor of Religion and Culture at Oregon State University and author of many books, including the best selling *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*, *The God We Never Knew*, and *The Heart of Christianity*.

JOHN DOMINIC CROSSAN is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Religious Studies, DePaul University, Chicago, past Co-Chair of the Jesus Seminar, and author of many books on the historical Jesus and earliest Christianity, including *Excavating Jesus: Beneath the Stones, Behind the Texts*, co-authored with archeologist, Jonathan L. Reed.

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Sept. 4 - 10 FRED WEBB

**FLYFISHING AND THEOLOGY
FAITH - FELLOWSHIP - FLYFISHING**

Though not a regular seminar session, guests are welcome to register with Fred Webb for this program.
(540) 962-1300 or email fsflyfish@aol.com

*2006 SUMMER RATES *

All rates are per person and based on double occupancy

*Includes lodging * meals * seminars * horseback riding * guided hiking * boating
Children under 5 are free.*

ADULT FEES FOR 12 DAY SESSIONS

Basic Room or Cabin with shared bath	\$ 1060
Basic Cabin with private bath	\$ 1170
Larger Cabin with private bath	\$ 1295
Kitchenette Cabin	\$ 1420
Guaranteed private regular room	50% of adult rate for requested cabin type
Guaranteed private small room (limited # available, shared bath only)	\$ 200

YOUTH FEES FOR 12 DAY SESSIONS

Youth (ages 13 – 17)	\$ 790
Child (ages 5 – 12)	\$ 530

ADULT FEES FOR 6 DAY SESSIONS

Basic Room or Cabin with shared bath	\$ 610
Basic Cabin with private bath	\$ 690
Larger Cabin with private bath	\$ 740
Kitchenette Cabin	\$ 830
Guaranteed private regular room	50% of adult rate for requested cabin type
Guaranteed private small room (limited # available, shared bath only)	\$ 100

YOUTH FEES FOR 6 DAY SESSIONS

Youth (ages 13 – 17)	\$ 470
Child (ages 5 – 12)	\$ 320

All fees are subject to sales & lodging taxes. We try to honor your accommodation requests, but we cannot guarantee them. Daily and off-season rates available upon request. We cannot accept credit cards, but we're happy to take your personal check. Limited scholarships available, contact Director.

Deposit: To hold your reservations, we request a deposit of \$300.00/adult and \$150.00/child for 12 day sessions; \$175/adult and \$100/child for 6 day sessions. This is refundable (less a 20% handling charge) up to 60 days in advance of arrival. After that time, the deposit is refundable (less 20%) only if we can rebook your space.

2006 Registration

Return form to: Ring Lake Ranch c/o Ann Mebane McWhirter 30 Elk Meadow Dr. Cody, WY 82414 (307) 455-2663 ringlake@wyoming.com www.ringlake.org	# Registrants: _____ Adults @ rate _____ _____ Youth (13-17) _____ _____ Children (5-12) _____ _____ Reg. private room _____ _____ Small private room _____ _____ TOTAL _____ Deposit Amount _____
--	--

Session _____ Dates _____

Registrant Name(s) _____

Names & ages of children (if applicable) _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Work Phone (____) _____

Fax/Cell (____) _____ Email _____

Accommodation preference: Basic/shared bath Basic/private bath Large/private bath Kitchenette cabin Cabin # _____

Guaranteed private regular room (50% of adult fee for same type room) Guaranteed private small room w/shared bath

Roommate preference (if registering separately) _____ Prefer single beds?

Is walking over steep or rough terrain difficult for you? Yes No Any other physical limitations? _____

Dietary restrictions/food allergies: _____

Do you anticipate you will need transportation from the airport? (Fee is \$85/person or \$190/ranch vehicle each way) Yes No Jackson/Riverton

RING OF FRIENDS

Following is the Ring of Friends who supported the Ranch financially over the past year. Please let us know if there is an error in our records.

LOUISE (\$500 and above)

Anna Armstrong
Don & Anna Lee Bachtell
Richard & Roberta Bondi
Sylvia Crouter
Lin & Ann Knight
Dan Kreimer
Kathy Leithner
Linda Inlow & Joe McIntire
Sara Myers & David Petersen
Kristy Richards
Sheila & Carlyle Richards
Mark & Melinda Rolfs
 ~ to honor their parents
 Don and Donna Rolfs
Boyce & Melissa Thomas
Gene & Charky Tucker
Ruth Venable
 ~ in memory of Debby Huigen
Ruth Venable ~ to honor Anita Iceman
Linda & Samantha Wilkinson

RING (\$250 - \$499)

Cleveland Park Congregational
UCC Church
Ellen Halperin & Peggy Bresee
Andrew Reitz & Rebecca Brown
David & Bonnie Carlson
Judy Rollins & Elizabeth Haslam
Belden & Patricia Lane
Dick & Marge McIntosh
Erik Esborg & Becky Tucker
Tom Ewell & Cathy Whitmire
Dick & Gretchen Williams

TRAIL (\$100 - \$249)

Debra Wuersch & Bob Ablondi
Patricia Ashe
A.Y. and Sandy Glatzau Brown
Andrew Reitz & Rebecca Brown
James & Sally Byrne
Diane Schulz & James Carafano
 ~ to honor their son Luke
Elizabeth Cook
Nancy Albertson & Bill Dunn
Mary Jo Enderby
 ~ in memory of her
 grandmother, Hazle Danner
Bill & Bev Fry
Kenneth Fuller

Bob & Sue Gardner
Treva Hall
Stuart & Kat Haskins
Ann Husted
 ~ to honor Ruth Venable
Barbara Jollis
Julia Royall, Brian, Ange and Owen
Kahin
Dean & Bettye Kennedy
Elizabeth Selle Jones & Jeffrey Lambkin
Margaret Little
 ~ to honor Joan Guntzelman
Cal & Carolyn Luker
Ann Maxwell
Jeanie & Alan Mebane
Joanie Misrack
Warren Murphy
Amanda Myers
Ron Stacey
 ~ for care of horses
Bob & Nelda Thelin
Tom & Leslie Tupper
Austin Turney
Susan Vogel
 ~ to honor Doris Kurath
Dennis & Lenore Williams

TORREY

(\$1 - \$99)

Nancy Appleby
Jill Bartels
Margie Bauerle
Ken & Catherine Beck
Phyllis Boardman
Eugene & Signe Brown
Diane Schulz & James Carafano
 ~ for start up costs
Dave Curtis
Mary Jo Erickson
LaRay Schneider & Sam Foushee
Barbara Gray
Donald & Marilyn Griffith
Mark Haberman
 ~ to honor Dwight Haberman
Gary & Vicky Keimig
Doris Kurath
Barbara MacDougall
Robert Mc Fadden
Comer Meadows
Don & Arline Miller
Jack Moore
Willis Henry Moore
David & Bonnie Northcutt

Renie Pedregon
 ~ in memory of Joe Pedregon
Heather Pentland
Naomi Petersen
James Poole
Penny Pope
 ~ to honor the leadership of
 Joan Guntzelman
Jude & Alex Rakowski
Marlow & Ann Wall Richards
Warren Sautebin
Thomas Schwartz
Charlotte Sommers
Marilee Sorensen
James Sullivan
John & Carloyn Twiname
Tom Ewell & Cathy Whitmire
Ruth Wimmel
 ~ to honor Joan Guntzelman
Carl & Til Zimmerman

HENRY EVERDING EQUINE ENDOWMENT

(Donations since published in Fall, 2005, added or inadvertently omitted from that list)

Jeff and Cat Cross
Linda Dugger
Louis & Beverly Everding
Larry & Lynn George
Raymond & Susan Grimaldi
Bernard & Barbara Herbaugh
MerryAnn Jancovic
Jennifer Lowry
Sandra Lucas
Alan & Jeanie Mebane
Cory & Deb Nelson
Steven Pifer
Penny Pope
Kristy Richards
Sheila Richards
Don & Donna Rolfs
South Mesa Veterinary Hospital
Dick & Gretchen Williams
Diane Wittkoff
Herbert & Sandra Wittow

RING LAKE RANCH

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FROM THE BACK PORCH

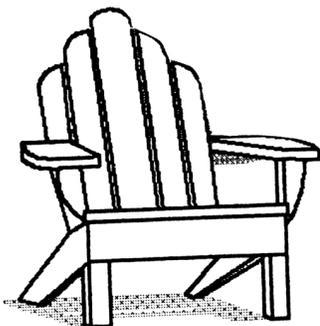
In days of yore
When Maggie was the core,
Ring Lake Ranch began,
And, Oh how it ran!

It began with teens
Who slept in tents
Up near the ridge
On an uneven bench.

Then came adults
With seminars so fine,
The activities were many
With more in due time.

But riding and fishing
Were the top of the line.

Every day from one to three
Was quiet time
And you'd better BE!



Five-thirty we shared experiences
With lots of laughs
Or music delerious.

Meals were delicious
With plenty to eat
Many gained weight
Which is hard to defeat.

The staff came and went,
But many summers some spent.
Lots of good friends
Were made every year,
And partings were sad
With many a tear.

O'er the many years
I spent on the trails,
Ring Lake will always be
The very best of my life's tales.

~ **Ruth Venable**
Head Wrangler, 1977-1989
