

## 75 Years & Counting A Brief History of the Ranch



*The Ranch House under construction circa 1930.*

The Summer 1997 edition of *Coming Home* was devoted to the 50th anniversary of the Ranch. It included an article written by Michelle Dibblee, now Director of Cathedral Programs at the National Cathedral in D.C., based on an interview with Ian — the last surviving member of the White family — from whom the diocese bought the land that is now The Bishop's Ranch. Looking back and looking forward, we've reproduced portions of it here in order to consider the Ranch's place in the world today.

*From 1931 to 1947, Osborne and Aileen Dowsett White raised their two sons, Ian and Craig, and their daughter, Persis, on the eight-thousand-acre property that they called White-O-Rancho, lauded by the 1937 almanack of Sonoma as "one of the show places of northern California."*

*Ian fondly recounted childhood memories spanning more than a decade of Ranch history, from the happy times in the early 1930's to the sobering changes brought about by World War II and its aftermath. He recalled that he and his brother played in and around the Ranch, especially in their playhouse on the hill overlooking the valley, where the chapel is now. In games and make-believe, the boys would play in and under the structure, once staying beneath it so long that they were considered lost or kidnapped—until they emerged to find out what the commotion was all about!*

*continued on page 2*

## Pausing to Celebrate

*Aaron Wright, Executive Director*



As we enter this season of graduations, summer kick-offs, and other milestones, there will be a lot of celebrating. We mark time with these shared moments.

Any celebration, big or small, is really about taking a moment to pause, to reflect, and to appreciate. When we celebrate by marking where we are in time, we are taking the opportunity to stop and to consider how far we have come, how much we have accomplished, and what has been built, rebuilt, lost, and found. Celebrating can also ground us and help us to recognize what opportunities lay ahead.

As this issue goes to press, we are celebrating the 75th year of The Bishop's Ranch. On the one hand, The Ranch has defied the odds – when it was founded in 1947 life expectancy in the U.S. was 64.4 years for men and 69.7 years for women. We've made it years past that! On the other hand, we are just getting started: beginning to dream big again even as we learn to live with COVID. Either way, 75 years of The Bishop's Ranch is a milestone worth celebrating.

Join me in celebrating! If you have photos of The Ranch from the last 75 + years or a story you'd like to share, please email [photos@bishopsranch.org](mailto:photos@bishopsranch.org). We'll be collecting and recording these memories and hope to share some of them in the Fall edition of *Coming Home*.

With Gratitude,  
Aaron

# 75 Years...(continued)



*Ian and Craig at their play house.*

Days for the boys were also full of learning—each day in the library, their mother tutored them from the mail-ordered Calvert course. Outdoors, they learned to ride and care for their horses, helped around the grounds, worked at the dairy, and did their assigned chores. Ian White’s first job was to clean the pens of his mother’s Great Danes for 10 cents an hour; later on he graduated to tending a barnful of calves on his own.

Every afternoon, they rode with the caretaker, Marshall MacCracken, an “old character with a

wonderful sense of humor,” as he checked the cattle fences and water troughs. At seventy-plus years old, MacCracken hadn’t been outside of Sonoma County until the White family took him to a fair in Sacramento! He would start baseball games with the boys using cow patties and redwood fence stakes.

Ian told us that the Ranch was self-sustaining, with Hereford cattle, several vegetable gardens, milk, cream and butter from the dairy, and eggs and poultry from his uncle’s chicken business. Their freezer, one of the first in the area, was a walk-in in the basement of the house. Bricks of cork served as insulation, which worked so well that occasionally the handle would freeze while someone was inside. No need to worry, though: that person could take half a frozen fish nearby and hit the handle until it opened.


Ian recollected Easter egg hunts, birthday celebrations, and summer swimming parties given by his parents for their friends from Healdsburg and Santa Rosa. In the late spring, the family would fill the pool, which was dug with the help of his father’s prized Percheron draft

*continued on page 3*

## The Bishop's Ranch Historical Timeline

### Prehistory


The Ranch serves as a place of gathering, whether for ancient animals or early humans. In the Pleistocene Epoch (100,000-10,000 B.C.) the Ranch is part of an abundant plain stretching as far south as Salinas, including what is now the bay. This vast area is documented as resembling the Serengeti Plain.



Columbian mammoths, ancient bison, camels, dire wolves and American lions roam the hills. As humans arrive, the Ranch becomes a village trading site located close to the bend of the Russian River. *ii*

### 1841

Mexico grants 46,800 acres, including the Healdsburg area, to Henry DeLano Fitch, named Rancho Sotayome. Fitch is married to Josefa Conillo, sister of Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo.




### 1871

- Opening day of the new San Francisco and North Pacific Railway in Healdsburg.
- Healdsburg population: 1,750. *ii*

### 1850

- The Heald brothers move to Russian River area and help William March build a flour and lumber mill at the Upper Falls of Mill Creek. *(i)*
- The US Government forces many Pomo onto reservations so the European-Americans can homestead the former Pomo lands. Some Pomo take jobs as ranch laborers; others live in refugee villages.
- The Pomo population is estimated between 3,500 and 5,000.




### 1880

The Pomo population is estimated at 1,400.


### 1890

The Whites build the Ranch house for their family home. This is a working ranch with Percheron horses, cattle, a dairy, timber logging and lumber mill, and 5,000 chickens.



### 1930

Aileen Dowsett White and Osborne White purchase 8,000 acres of land from the estate of Emily Hopkins. The land becomes the "White-O-Ranch".



### 1933

Prohibition ends, but the lasting impact of prohibition severely damages the hop and wine industries. Mary Healdsburg area breweries and wineries close. *ii*

### 1941

Healdsburg population: 4,000. *ii*

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## 75 Years...(continued)

horses, and gather friends around to relax and enjoy the sunshine on Sunday afternoons.

Things began to change as World War II loomed and the family's focus shifted from running the Ranch to supporting their country. Rationing of meat, sugar, and gas made it more difficult for the family to provide for themselves or their employees, and the servants began to leave for the service or the shipyards.

From the very first, the Whites were involved in the war effort; Osborne White started the first chapter of the local militia, the California State Guard Reserve, in 1940. Aileen Dowsett White worked at the Red Cross. The family still has the service citation issued to her as well as her Red Cross head scarf. Although there were no more lavish parties, the Whites were still host and hostess on occasions when military servicemen came to share holiday meals.

As the war came to an end, the Whites began to consider moving on. They decided that it was time for their years at the ranch to come to a



Exclusive summer parties on the Ranch House lawn.

close, so they purchased a smaller hay farm in Petaluma and put the White-O-Rancho up for sale. Eventually, Bishop Karl Morgan Block, who had dreamed of a diocesan retreat center, came to visit the site and in 1947 purchased it from the Whites.

We find ourselves again at the end of halcyon days, facing wars on many fronts. Not just the most obvious, the terrible violence being inflicted by the Russian military on the people of Ukraine,

*continued on page 5*

**1947**  
The Whites finally sell the Rancho, including the main house to the Episcopal Diocese of California. Bishop Block purchases the Rancho and the house and the building is converted to a retreat center for the diocese.

**1948**  
The Whites sell the White-O-Rancho to the Bishop of the Diocese of California.

**1950**  
Bishop James Pinckney Stewart.

**1955**  
The Whites sell the White-O-Rancho to the Episcopal Diocese of California. The house is converted to a retreat center for the diocese.

**1958**  
The Whites sell the White-O-Rancho to the Episcopal Diocese of California. The house is converted to a retreat center for the diocese.

**1959**  
The Whites sell the White-O-Rancho to the Episcopal Diocese of California. The house is converted to a retreat center for the diocese.

**1967**  
Bishop James Pinckney Stewart.

**1970**  
The Whites sell the White-O-Rancho to the Episcopal Diocese of California. The house is converted to a retreat center for the diocese.

**1972**  
The Whites sell the White-O-Rancho to the Episcopal Diocese of California. The house is converted to a retreat center for the diocese.

**1975**  
The Whites sell the White-O-Rancho to the Episcopal Diocese of California. The house is converted to a retreat center for the diocese.

**1978**  
The Whites sell the White-O-Rancho to the Episcopal Diocese of California. The house is converted to a retreat center for the diocese.

**1983-1984**  
The Whites sell the White-O-Rancho to the Episcopal Diocese of California. The house is converted to a retreat center for the diocese.

**1986**  
The Whites sell the White-O-Rancho to the Episcopal Diocese of California. The house is converted to a retreat center for the diocese.

## 75 Years...(continued)

but also the ongoing battle against long-hidden, systemic racism in our country. The 1997 article only mentions the Scottish caretaker MacCracken, very little of the more than fifty workers who made the White-O-Rancho function. We are given no names, nothing of their circumstances. We read that *servants* left their jobs on the ranch to fight their country's war; we don't know who they were, who was lost, who returned. We know that Ian and Craig had a sister, Persis, but her part in play and learning isn't given any attention in the 1997 article. *(More on the women of the White family in a future newsletter!)*

On a second front, The Ranch is situated in a region that is ecologically maxed out, in a global ecosystem that is tilting even faster than predicted toward catastrophic change. These are serious battles; we are called to recognize our part on both sides. We struggle not to feel besieged by drought and fire and we also struggle to know our part in the state of the world. New buildings like the straw-bale Pavilion were constructed with the health of



*Perforations in the grey-water pipe allow us to send our laundry water back into the ground for plants.*

### Through the Years

**1987**

- Mark Farmer comes to manage the Ranch.
- His parents, Peter & Bevi, become Resident Hosts.



**1991**

- St. Stephen's Village Cottages are renovated.
- "The New Territories" consisting of 166 additional acres, including a lake, is purchased. ★



• Kip Cottage is renovated.

**1990**

Col Rutherford becomes Board President.



**1993**

Lloyd Aubrey becomes Board President. He served as President for over 20 years.

**1994**

Webb Lodge is built.

**1996**

- Horizon House is constructed.
- Silent Days of Advent begin.
- Jack Dowling & Lisa Thorne move to the Ranch.



**2008**

- Swing Pavilion is constructed, including a new entry road and additional parking.
- The Bishop's Ranch cookbook, "The Abundant Table" is published.
- Gina's Orchard is put into a conservation easement by the Martin L. Griffin Family. ★
- The Yalvide Sanctuary is added.
- Nigel Heath becomes the Board President.



**1989**

- Jim Brown becomes Ranch Chaplain.
- Sean and Catherine Draper-Swift arrive to be Resident Hosts.



**1992**

- Family Camp and Bread Camps begin.
- St. John's Meeting house is completed.
- An additional 13 acres, known as Hawk Hill is purchased. ★

**1998**

- The Refectory and Kitchen are remodeled.
- The "100 Acre Wood" is purchased. ★

**1999**

The Ranch House is remodeled.

**2001**

The Friary is removed.

**2004**

The Labyrinth is added.

**2006**

Bishop Marc Andrus is elected.



★ **Land of The Bishop's Ranch**



## 75 Years...(continued)

the environment in mind, and we continue to retrofit buildings in ways that lessen our impact on the environment. Nonetheless, many of our decisions are now compromises.

We have a new pool, built, on the one hand, by fossil-fueled back hoe, and enjoyed, on the other, by many many more people than a tiny subset of personal friends. Now, re-defined, blended, inter-generational families beyond the imagination of the Whites find welcome here. On the one hand, cows still trample Ranch meadowlands, but on the other, their grazing contributes to fire safety. And we are called to go further, to change our aesthetic—to see drought consciousness in browned lawns. Where Ian and Craig once played in the snow, we now grey-cycle laundry water to keep even our spare plantings alive.

The Ranch continues to be a place of rest and restoration, but like the first responders we've begun to support on retreat, we know our job is to go back out into the fray—not to stay out of it just because we can.



*Drought resistant plantings next to Harrison House.*

**2009**

- Pat Moore becomes Ranch Chaplain.
- New chapel windows are designed and installed.
- The "Credo," by Skip Gauthman is added to the open lands of the Ranch.

**2010**

- The Prayer Resident program begins.

**2013**

- A new pool is built to replace the original White family pool built in 1930.
- Showers and restrooms are added adjacent to St. John's meeting house.

**2015**

- READ Camp begins.

**2016**

- Susan Plepoint becomes Board President.

**2017**

- Kip Cottage & The Flory are renovated to make room for more staff housing.
- The Wright Family moves to the Ranch when Aaron is hired as Hospitality Director.
- The Tubbs Fire, the first in a series of devastating wildfires in Sonoma County, burns 37,000 acres to the south of the Ranch.

**2019**

- The Encade Fire burns 70,000 acres to the north and west of the ranch.
- Megan Anderson becomes Ranch Chaplain.

**2020**

- Due to the COVID-19 Global Pandemic the ranch closes for the first time in 74 years.
- The Wallbridge Fire burns 55,000 acres to the south and west of the ranch, coming within 100 feet of the back of the 100 Acre Woods.
- Sean Swift retires after 31 years of service to the Ranch.
- Hale Toole becomes Board President.

**2021**

- After 15 months of closure the Ranch reopens to BREAG Camps and Group Retreats.
- Aaron Wright becomes Executive Director of the Ranch, and John Koch becomes Assistant Director.

## Staff News

Welcome to our new Program Director, **Michelle Nadalin** who will be overseeing all of our Ranch-sponsored programs including summer camp. Michelle has a long history with the Ranch, and we're thrilled to have her on the team.

*She tells us, "I first stepped foot on The Bishop's Ranch in sixth grade. I was a nervous middle schooler eager to establish my own sense of self. The Bishop's Ranch gave me the space and support that allowed me to discover myself, and over the years it has continued to be a place where I can center my soul even into adulthood."*

Michelle got her doctorate in physical therapy from the University of Southern California (USC). She says *"It's truly an honor to have patients trust me along their rehab journey."*

She has worked all over the country including Southern California, Alaska, Washington and Georgia, but says *"camp never really left me."* Over the years she found ways to steal time away and go back to camp, working and volunteering at a variety of camps in New York, New Hampshire, and Los Angeles.

*"This opportunity at The Bishop's Ranch comes at a time when I'm ready to leave the day to day rigors of healthcare. I look forward to nurturing programs and camps that allow everyone to experience the transformational and restorative spirit at The Bishop's Ranch. This transition truly feels like coming home."*

**Kandie Faurot**, who has been with The Ranch since 2008 and who became our Kitchen Manager in 2020, has been given the title of Executive Chef.

**Pedro Morales**, also at The Ranch since 2008, is now our Sous Chef.

**Sean Dalton** is the newest member of The Bishop's Ranch kitchen team, joining us as a Lead Cook back in March. Sean found his way to The Ranch after responding to a call from Kandie, our Executive Chef, when she was looking for help with Sip & Savor. (See page 8.) Before joining the kitchen team, Sean traveled the world as a trombonist and musical director with Royal Caribbean Cruises from 2010-2022. A Santa Rosa local, Sean is excited to be putting down roots back in his hometown, and learning to cook with the amazing kitchen team at the Bishop's Ranch.

## A Chaplain Emerita for the Ranch



Is it our great honor to announce that The Rev. Patricia Moore is now our Ranch Chaplain Emerita. This title is given to honor the work and many contributions Pat has made as Ranch Chaplain and beyond. Since Pat recently declared that one of her hobbies is "unsuccessfully retiring," it seemed fitting to honor her next phase with a title she can't retire from.

Pat came to work at The Ranch in 2009. During her time as Chaplain she worked with Sean Swift and Laurie Glover to establish our volunteer Prayer Resident program, served as chaplain to our year-round and summer camp staff. After her first retirement in 2019, she returned to serve as Summer Camp Director in 2021 and at the same time became interim Chaplain.

Since Pat has taken her final bow, The Rev. Fr. Brendan Williams has agreed to step into the role of Chaplain. Brendan has been in residence at The Ranch since last fall offering daily prayers and serving the Chapel community with Pat.

Fr. Brendan is a life-professed monk and the Prior of the religious order, The Communion of the Mystic Rose, which was founded and remains canonically resident in the Episcopal Diocese of California. He came to The Ranch after five years in Colorado. A spiritual director, and a teacher of ascetical theology, mysticism, meditation, and comparative religion, he will be serving The Ranch and the congregation of the Chapel of St. George as part-time chaplain while working on his PhD in theology and religious studies through the University of St. Andrews, Scotland.

## Quilting at the Ranch

by Julie Miller



Prior to the pandemic, The Ranch hosted twelve quilting groups and three textile groups, accounting for over 330 attendees each year. We are happy to report that once again, in 2022, hosting staff are pulling out ironing boards, extension cords, floor lamps, and tables.

Within hours of the quilters' arrival, the meeting space comes alive with sounds and activity—machines whirring, fabrics being measured and cut, the clunk of irons, talking and laughter. The projects are diverse—a baby blanket for a new grandchild, pillowcases for college students, an art quilt, or a holiday table runner.

Each day brings progress. Projects are spread out across tables or are hung up in various stages of completion. The opportunity to check in with other quilters about a new idea, possible combinations of color or pattern, is just a table away. A quilter who gets stuck on a problem finds help across the room. So many of our participants tell staff that coming to the Ranch for a retreat is like heaven on earth for a quilter. No chores to attend to or hungry mouths to feed, just sewing, eating, and sleeping in whatever amounts are necessary. And when a break is needed, there are breathtaking views to take in, trails to wander and no schedule to keep—except for mealtimes!

At the close of their time together, quilters begin to pack up finished or at-least-partway-finished projects, pull threads off of their clothes – and everything else! – and load vehicles with the tools of their trade. The cache of snacks is greatly diminished and the recycling bin is full. So much creativity amidst laughter and conversation! Talk of the next retreat has already begun.

Spiritual life, the arts, and stewardship of the environment are at the heart of so many activities at The Ranch. Every quilting group that spends time with us is a vibrant part of the fulfillment of these goals, from the blessing of communal work to the beautiful results.



### 2022 Schedule

**Intergenerational  
Camp**

June 26 to July 1

**Bread Explorers**

July 3 to 8

**Bread Adventurers**

July 10 to 15

**Bread Discoverers**

July 17 to 22

**TOAST**

July 22 to 24

**READ Camp**

July 25 to 29

Learn more and sign up at:  
[www.bishopsranch.org](http://www.bishopsranch.org)



## Staff Directory

**Executive Director**  
Aaron Wright

**Interim  
Advancement Director**  
P. Tyrone Smith

**Program Director**  
Michelle Nadalin

**Operations**  
Cara Anderson  
Aech Loar  
Julie Miller  
Aspen Santillan  
Leda Wagner  
Brooke Wright

**Facilities & Land**  
Matt Kissmann  
Miguel Gutierrez

**Housekeeping**  
Areli Valerio Eufrazio  
Irais Eufrazio  
Mari González  
Leti Gonzalez-Padilla  
Adriana Villafuerte

**Kitchen**  
Rosie Aguirre  
Kara Briggs  
Whitney Cox  
Sean Dalton  
Sarah Farmer-Williams  
Kandie Faurot  
Dominic Marsden  
Pedro Morales  
Mac Wright  
Mateo Wright

## Coming Home

A newsletter about life at  
The Bishop's Ranch

Edited by Laurie Glover

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your contact info and  
communication preferences:  
[advancement@bishopsranch.org](mailto:advancement@bishopsranch.org)

[www.bishopsranch.org](http://www.bishopsranch.org)

## Upcoming Ranch Programs

**Writing in Ordinary Time**  
**Week 1 July 31- August 5, 2022**  
**Week 2 August 7-12, 2022**

Sink into the quiet places of creative work supported by facilitator Laurie Glover. Modeled after Quiet Days of Advent, Writing in Ordinary Time is offered to give you a week to enter into the deep work of writing in the company of others doing the same, whether you are just starting to be a writer, beginning new work, or seeking a fresh approach to ongoing work. All the writers help each other with their honesty and commitment. All hold supportive silence with each other through the course of each day and gather to share every evening. Leave behind the pressures of getting published, networking, making career moves, the fears of not being any good, and just write!

### Writing Workshop Series (NEW!)

We are planning a series of one-day workshops designed to catalyze new ways of finding subject matter for creative work. The workshops will be offered three times a year; each will focus on one aspect of the Ranch's mission-driven focus areas: art, earth, and spirit. More information in the next issue of *Coming Home*.

### Fall Hike October 15, 2022

Spend a Saturday walking the little-known trails of The Bishop's Ranch and explore its many habitats. Situated on rugged terraces above the Russian River, The Ranch lies between the conifer forests to the west and north and the heavily cultivated river floodplain with remnant riparian forest to the east. The hills and ridges offer spectacular views of the river valley's unique geography.





## Upcoming Ranch Programs

### Song and Silence with Devi Mathieu November 11-13, 2022

Join a circle of voices in experiencing Hildegard's music the way she shared it with those around her, through a gentle, contemplative process of listening, then singing what we hear. St. Hildegard of Bingen—a 12th century sage, visionary, healer, naturalist, poet, counselor, and composer—has blessed us with a rich legacy of spirit-lifting, heart-opening music. Her songs are encoded with wisdom and inspiration and stir the spirits of everyone who sings them. Savor the ringing silence that follows each song and feel warmed and strengthened as the music settles in your heart. Enjoy plenty of quiet time for rest and rejuvenation in the tranquil beauty of the Ranch.

### Day of Yoga with Marie Hirsch November 12, 2022

Use breath and meditation to deepen your understanding and appreciation of yoga. Our focus will be on choosing what opens your heart, supports your health, and uncovers your inner wisdom. You will be guided and encouraged to move past your resistance into a state of peace, clarity, and joy. After a morning of active, uplifting asana practice focused on raising the energy and creating a sense of strength and lightness, in the afternoon, we will practice Restorative/ Yin Yoga, moving into increased levels of awareness and stillness.



## Share Your Ranch Photos

Sharing your treasured photos from your Ranch experiences is easy! Just send them to [photos@bishopsranch.org](mailto:photos@bishopsranch.org).

Who knows, they could end up in our newsletter, on social media or even on our website.

## Board of Directors

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## Sip & Savor Ranch Experience Extraordinaire

by Deacon Lauren P. McCombs

Back at our Board Retreat in 2019, while brainstorming new ways to promote The Ranch, I mentioned the idea of a Farm to Table Event at Bishop's Ranch, inspired by a lovely dinner that I had enjoyed with my family in the rolling hills of Tuscany twenty-five years before.

After all, I said, we must remember Jesus' first miracle was turning water into wine at a wedding in Cana when the wine ran out!

We all know all too well that the pandemic put many of our plans on hold. It wasn't until November of 2021 that we had an opening in The Ranch's busy calendar.

Sip & Savor was the official kick-off to The Ranch's 75th Anniversary and occurred over the

weekend of February 11th through the 13th, 2022.

We reached out to supporters of the Ranch using online bidding for deluxe Ranch stays that included a Saturday night Six-Course Fine Wine and Food Pairing Experience, featuring local wines and dishes expertly prepared by the Ranch kitchen. These were so popular and so many Ranch supporters were disappointed they couldn't attend that we invited them to bid remotely for various Silent Auction Packages. The favorite was a San Francisco Bay Sailing Package skippered by Board member, Richard Schaper. There was so much interest that Richard graciously offered to do three sailing trips!

All in all, the Ranch's first Sip & Savor Event grossed over \$55,000, in addition to showing off all that we know and love so well about the Ranch, including its beautiful natural setting, its delectable food, as well as its amazing hospitality.



Top Left: Auction Packages; Top Right: Executive Director Aaron Wright with Bruce and Beth MacLean; Bottom Left: Main course braised lamb shanks with polenta; Bottom Right: Guests enjoy a six-course fine wine and food pairing dinner.

# Generation after Generation

By Noelle Huey Foote



Choral Music Camp at The Bishop's Ranch was my first ever sleep-away camp. But after that, I didn't just age up into one summer of BREAD Explorers camp, I returned year after year as an Adventurer, as a Discoverer, and then as a counselor. But I was not the first and will not be the last to enjoy The Ranch: My grandmother played music at the youth camp that my mom attended when she was thirteen years old.

The Bishop's Ranch is where I established connected friendships that spanned the San Francisco Bay bridges. Between summers, even before we could drive ourselves, we ventured out on public transit to see one another, to carry on relationships that always picked up where they left off, despite distance or time. Camp was where I made lifelong friends, my husband Colby being one of them.

Colby's camp experience started at St. Dorothy's when he was eight years old, where he was a camper for five years and then a counselor for three. He took a shot at being a volunteer camp counselor for BREAD at The Ranch in the summer

of 2007. We met at St. John's Meeting House on the first day of camp staff training. We reconnected in the summer of 2013, when Colby was pressed into service as lifeguard and Ranch Hand by his sister Andrea, who was Camp Director at the time; his other sister Hannah was slated to be on staff that same summer. I was serving as Assistant Camp Director.

It is abundantly clear that The Ranch has become a place of collective memories for us all, for the Footes and the Hueys, and now for our new family. This spring, we welcomed our little one, Riley Samuel Foote. We envision raising him among community and spaces where he can grow and discover his authentic self like we all have done at The Bishop's Ranch and St. Dorothy's Rest.

## Make a Gift to the Annual Fund today!

All aspects of life at the Ranch happen because we are a community. The Annual Fund provides direct support to the operating budget of the Ranch, allowing us to continue as a place where life-changing experiences and treasured memories are born.

When you support the Annual Fund you help us provide summer camps, increase resilience of Ranch lands, reach out to our community, and offer much needed hospitality and respite to all who visit.

Donate online at [bishopsranch.org/donate](https://bishopsranch.org/donate) or scan the QR code below

Mail in a donation or make a pledge using the enclosed remit envelope

Transfer stock or other securities; see instructions at [bishopsranch.org/stocksandsecurities](https://bishopsranch.org/stocksandsecurities)





## The Bishop's Ranch

of the Episcopal Diocese of California

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### *Recipes from the Ranch*

## Chocolate Pixies

- **4 tbsp butter**
- **4 oz unsweetened chocolate**
- **2 cups flour**
- **2 cups sugar**
- **2 tsp baking powder**
- **½ tsp salt**
- **4 eggs**

### *Powdered sugar for rolling*

Start by melting the butter and chocolate together in a small stainless steel bowl set over a saucepan of water. *Don't let the water touch the bottom of the bowl.*

Next, sift the flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt together.

When chocolate and butter have melted, let stand for 3-5 minutes, then add eggs, one at a time, so that the hot butter mixture doesn't cook the eggs.

Slowly sift in the dry ingredients, being careful not to over mix the batter.

Refrigerate batter for at least 2 hours or overnight.

Sift powdered sugar into another bowl.

Scoop the batter and roll into balls. Toss in the powdered sugar. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes in a 250° convection oven or 300° in a conventional oven.

*Yields Approximately 30 cookies*