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I did not understand a word the pastor said. People all around me listened intently, their eyes showing recognition. Yet none of it made any sense to me. So I shifted my focus from the platform to the interpreter signing just in front of my first row vantage.

For me and for the twenty-one deaf people around me that Sunday morning in Manila, it was the only way we could follow what was going on. I needed help because I speak English; they needed help because they use a sign language. In a small way, that moment helped me to better see the importance of the work Bob and Brenda Himes are doing in the Philippines. Without them, likely thousands of Deaf in the Philippines would be in the dark.

This year marks the thirtieth year that the Ranch and the Himes have worked together for Deaf Camp in the Philippines! Sixty-five Deaf were saved through Deaf Camp last year; and yet, camp is only a part of the good work that the Himes are doing. Every week, they visit churches in which they have helped to establish deaf ministries. Some of these churches have several nationals who run the ministry on a week-to-week basis.

On weekdays, the Himes teach classes for the Deaf, ranging in age from children on up. Over the years, deaf Filipinos have learned how to communicate, how to get a job, and how to live through these efforts. More importantly, they have learned about Christ!

The Himes also design and print a large volume of literature on a regular basis. Some of these resources help reach and train deaf Filipinos, some give lesson plans to those teaching classes, and others encourage and equip the work of those in deaf ministries across the country. Their work is a major factor in helping deaf ministries nationally.

While in the Philippines for those twelve days in January, Evangelist Tim Thompson and I had the privilege of preaching in five churches, a pastor's conference, and a prison. We preached both in Manila and in Iloilo City, located on another island about an hour's flight south. A couple dozen people trusted Christ as Savior, and we met a number of dedicated people and fine pastors.

I met pastors in both cities who had learned sign language from the Himes. One pastor I met in Iloilo had learned sign language from Brother Himes twenty years ago! Another pastor is pastoring the church through which he came to Christ. He first began serving in that church by helping Bob Himes with the Deaf Ministry!

On the last day we were in the Philippines, the Sunday service ended with the baptism of a new believer, a deaf lady. She had been saved out of a dark and destructive way of life to join the family of God and the believers there in that church in Manila. The pastor who baptized her spoke in Tagalog, an interpreter near the baptistry spoke in sign language, and we all rejoiced in unison. How wonderful to be a part of this work in this new season!



MANILA ★

ILOILO CITY ●

“Camp is ONLY A PART OF  
THE GOOD WORK that the  
Himes are doing.”



# Who We Are; What We Do

by Evangelist Bill Rice III

The Bill Rice Ranch is a revival ministry. The Bill Rice Ranch has a camp. Do these two statements make sense to you? Both are true; they define each other, and they help explain what we do.

When my father began the Ranch in the early 1950s, he was an evangelist with a full schedule of revival meetings. Because he believed he could be more effective in reaching deaf people if he had them come to him instead of his going to them, he got off of the "road" and started the Ranch. Interestingly, in 1953 the summers provided the best time for church or "area wide" revivals, but Dad gave that up for the dream he and Mother had for the Ranch.

So, the Ranch is not run like a secular camp or even many fine Christian camps. It is just like a revival campaign. Instead of the evangelist going to churches, the churches come to us. The program, the counselors, and the camp organization are all subject to the preaching – just like a revival campaign. Most, but not all, of these "campaigns" take place on the Ranch in the summer. There will be ten retreats on the Ranch in the fall and spring and, of course, nineteen summer programs. But in the first weeks of this year as preparation for spring and summer continues at the Ranch property, a bunch has hap-

pened with Brother Wil and seven other evangelists who have the Ranch revival ministry at heart.

In the first two months of this year the Ranch led in over fifty events involving over sixty churches from New York State to the Philippines. These events would include **West Branch on the Move** conferences in Arizona, a youth conference in Florida, and week-long meetings in Florida, California, Arizona, Mississippi, and Illinois. In truth, January and February are two of the busiest months of the year for the ministries of the Ranch.

I once was asked by a friend, "What do you guys do in the winter months at the Ranch ministries?"

"Ah, well," I said and started in on the answer. Actually, neither one of us had time to go over the answer, an answer which he expected could be one word, "Sleep!"

Nope, we didn't spend the first ten weeks of the year with a lot of "sleepy sleep" time, and we



will not in the next ten weeks either. The Bill Rice Ranch is a revival ministry. In the 1940s its founder traveled from Oregon to New York to Florida. In the 1950s he and his wife started a camp for the purpose of winning people to Christ and stirring revival fires. So, I write to you from Florida to say we're still involved in a revival ministry, the Ranch. Tomorrow we head for the camp property. The camp, after all, is just one of the things the Bill Rice Ranch has.

Now, let's see if the next two sentences make sense. The Bill Rice Ranch is a revival ministry. The Bill Rice Ranch has a camp. Whether we can be a blessing and help in your life at our part of the country or yours, we are a ministry of revival.

## BACK AT THE RANCH...

**Our Projects; Your Mission Trip?** Every year a number of facility projects are completed on the Ranch by the faithful staff God has provided. From time to time, we also welcome individuals or church groups to work on special projects. Men from churches in Florida and Kentucky have taken "mission trips" to the Ranch lately to clear brush and prepare for fencing. We also have individuals donating time to complete the cabin air-conditioning project. On April 17 there will also be a work day when many local friends will come to the Ranch to work on other projects. You might pray about bringing a group of workers to the Ranch to help sometime. It could be a great way to begin a mission trip program in your church. For more information on scheduling a trip to Murfreesboro, please contact Dale Stover at 615-893-2767, ext. 105.



**We are so grateful for the Lord's provision of volunteers to help this summer.** We have had such a great response that all of our positions for counselor ladies, operational staff ladies, and summer CORE volunteers are filled. We do still have need of counselor and operational staff men.



Please pray with us for the Lord to provide **three more counselor men and two more operational staff men** for this summer. Counselor men are still needed to help in the teen, junior, and deaf week programs. Operational staff men are needed to help with grounds, maintenance, and horses. **If you know of any young men** who are interested in summer ministry, please contact Jon Jones at 615-893-2767, ext. 135 or [recruitment@billriceranch.org](mailto:recruitment@billriceranch.org).

## 2010 NEW YORK CITY Report



▲Thirty-seven people participated in the 9th annual New York City Evangelistic Trip, January 4-8. **Seventy-eight people trusted Christ as Savior** with five receiving assurance of salvation.

**PRAY ABOUT JOINING US FOR THE 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary trip, JANUARY 3-7, 2011!**



## Our Heart for the West

Would you consider Arizona a mission field? Before I moved to Arizona eleven years ago, I considered Arizona a large, hot state with a lot of snakes, cacti, and retired folks! My perception has definitely changed.

First of all, believe it or not, some of Arizona can get very cold. We have seen over one hundred inches of snow this winter at home in Williams, Arizona. Arizona is a beautiful state with a varied topography: canyons, mountains, deserts, ponderosa pine trees, saguaro cacti, and so much more. If you're tired of the desert, head to the mountains to escape the heat. If you need to warm up, come off the mountain and enjoy Phoenix in February. And the sunsets and the brilliant night sky are unparalleled!

While all of these natural characteristics are wonderful to enjoy on a daily basis, that's not why our hearts are firmly entrenched in the West. We love the people of the West!

This is a busy time of year. We are conducting three **West Branch on the Move**

conferences and preaching in nine churches in Arizona from February to May. Our Arizona regional family conference in February had representatives from seventeen churches. Many of these folks are dear friends that we have had ministry with again and again.

Some of the churches out here have been around for decades. Many have been planted in just the past few years. Five of those seventeen churches at the family conference didn't even exist ten years ago. One of them didn't exist last Christmas! It is an honor to try to help these dear churches and their pastors from the very earliest days of their ministries!

Other pastors out here are working with a specific mission field—Native Americans perhaps, other ethnic groups, or just small towns that need a gospel witness. I know a number of pastors who are mission supported.

These are just some of the men we are

trying to help. Some of the Arizona hamlets can be pretty lonely at times. There are some very faithful men out here, daily serving in remote places.

I'll tell you something else that is really a blessing—it's the camaraderie that we share! We're all working together. We live to support these western churches through conferences, revivals, special outreach, fellowship, and any other way that the Lord may impress on our hearts, not to mention the camp which we are developing!

I think that partnership is the reason it is always a blessing when one of these western churches provides financial support for West Branch or our family. Many of the churches are not yet in a position to help like that; but I believe that those churches who do help, understand our heart. Their support is just helping us be able to help them. Every church that attends one of our events is helping us keep doing what we do, and all that we do has them in mind.

We're pretty thrilled about churches back east that lend a hand too! Some of you take up the slack so we can keep doing what God has called us to do—help churches of the West through revival ministry. We could use more help, but we're sure thankful for what God has provided.

So is Arizona a mission field? Well, it certainly is a harvest field where God is at work. We're just glad to be a part of it.

◀ The **West Branch on the Move** Team

**Prepare now for a great fall!** Contact us for a special brochure including all the events at the Ranch this fall.

Let us know your plans now. We'll help you promote the event with complementary full-color posters and potential group discounts!

Helping Local Churches for **Over 50 Years!**

LADIES RETREAT

**a Recipe for Life**

October 14-16

GUEST SPEAKER:  
Bobbi Cook  
Evangelist Wife



HOST SPEAKERS:  
Mary Rice,  
Wil & Sena Rice



MEN'S RETREAT

**HOME IMPROVEMENT**

NOVEMBER 5-6

Speakers:  
Dr. Gene Lasley  
Pastor for over 46 years



Evangelists Wil Rice IV  
& Bill Rice III



CONFERENCE  
on *Marriage & the Home*

December 2-4

Speakers




Evangelist  
Wil Rice IV

Evangelist  
Bill Rice III



Missionary **Bob Himes** is making preparations for our **30th Annual Deaf Camps** in the Philippines this spring. Camps are already scheduled in Bacolod (May 3-7) and Manila (May 17-21). Sixty-five campers were saved last year.

As is true in our Deaf camps in the States, Filipino deaf young people come free of charge. This is **made possible by gifts to the Campership Fund**. To contribute to this important evangelistic outreach, please **mark your donation as "Deaf Camps: Philippines."** Your donation this month will help Brother Himes in his preparation for this important effort.

Please send all donations to: Bill Rice Ranch, 627 Bill Rice Ranch Rd., Murfreesboro, TN 37128



## Needs at the Ranch

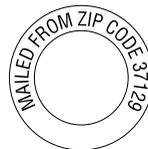
- **Metal Chop Saw**
- **Jack Hammer** (Electric or Air Compressor)
- **Rock Drill**
- **Leather Sewing Machine**
- **Small Sized Self-propelled Road Grader** (needed for upkeep of cinder road at West Branch)

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](mailto:dstover@billriceranch.org)



Bill Rice Ranch, Inc.  
627 Bill Rice Ranch Road  
Murfreesboro, TN 37128-4555

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## Bill Rice Ranch PUBLICATIONS

Spring Special

# FREE MUSIC CD!

with any purchase over \$30 March 23–April 23 **ONLY**

Offer good on any purchase of books, CDs, sheet music, DVDs, or deaf ministry resources. For free CD, please choose from the following titles:  
*Faith Is the Victory, Carry on the Cause or Love Lifted Me.\**



Call **1-800-253-RICE, ext.117**

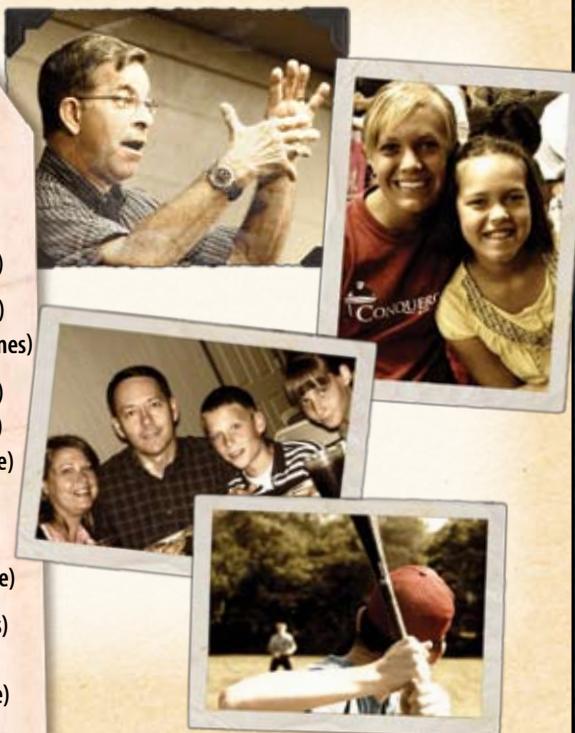
or visit our website [www.billriceranch.org](http://www.billriceranch.org)

\*For online orders, please note the title of free CD in the comment area.

## Join the Many Already Registered for the Ranch This Summer!

### Summer 2010

- June 13-18** **Junior I** (Ranch Evangelists)  
**Youth I** (Carlson, Schettler)  
**Deaf Week I** (R. Rice, Snare)
- June 27-July 2** **Junior II** (Ranch Evangelists)  
**Youth II** (Miller, Cook)  
**Deaf Week II** (R. Rice, Snare)
- July 4-8** **Junior III** (Ranch Evangelists)  
**Family Week I** (Flanders, Jones)
- July 11-16** **Junior IV** (Ranch Evangelists)  
**Youth III** (Thompson, Redlin)  
**Deaf Week III** (R. Rice, Snare)
- July 18-23** **Junior V** (Ranch Evangelists)  
**Youth IV** (Downs, Goetsch)  
**Deaf Week IV** (R. Rice, Snare)
- July 25-30** **Junior VI** (Ranch Evangelists)  
**Youth V** (Coyle, Reilly)  
**Deaf Week V** (R. Rice, Snare)
- August 1-5** **Deaf Adult Conference**  
**Sign Language School**  
**Family Week II** (Jaspers)



1-800-253-RICE • [www.billriceranch.org](http://www.billriceranch.org) • [info@billriceranch.org](mailto:info@billriceranch.org)  
627 Bill Rice Ranch Road, Murfreesboro, TN 37128-4555

## HOMESCHOOL CONFERENCE & Competition

April 8-10



## CONFERENCE on Marriage & the Home

May 6-8



## Father & Son ADVENTURE



A weekend that can  
make a difference!

May 14-15

## Spring Events

Helping Local Churches for **Over 50 Years!**