



Satsky takes one of the ranch's horses out of a stall to be brushed. Taking care of the horses is one of the daily chores performed by the boys at the ranch.

Still Creek

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Money from donations will be used for schoolbooks, desks, and most of all, a new schoolhouse to replace their current two-room facility, Margaret said.

Right now, the O'Quinns have only earned enough money to pour the foundation that sits empty on a cleared pasture.

Because the O'Quinns prefer to take in children from the Bryan-College Station area, all but two of

the Still Creek boys come from local families.

"We have so many needs in our community," Margaret said. "And that's why we feel we need to support them by taking care of their children."

Although the ranch has encountered many obstacles, the boys and O'Quinns said they are grateful for the many rewards.

"It is rewarding when a new child, who does want to be touched, comes to me after a week and wants me to hug them," Margaret said.

Dan said boys often come back to say how much they appreciate what the ranch did for them.

With so many things to be grateful for, the O'Quinns said they find it most difficult to see a boy go home when he is not ready.

They begin to do good in the program and think it's OK to go home, Dan said. But what they don't realize is that the problem is with their home environment, not them.

A false hope builds up in them because they've seen a brighter side of life, Margaret said.

"The boys are all happy to be here," she said. "But they would rather be at home. Those family ties are very, very strong."

Most of the boys receive Christ when they are at the ranch and make a change for better, Margaret said. They are sometimes on a great spiritual high when they go home; and after a day in that atmosphere, they come back with a complete darkness.

Fifteen-year-old Logan D. Williams said Still Creek has really enhanced his life.

"I feel loved and appreciated," Williams said. "My life has changed."

Sonnie Easley, 14, and a newcomer to Still Creek, said his goals have changed and someday he would like to go to college. Because his grades have improved since he came to the ranch, he has a good chance of doing that.

The future for the Still Creek Boys Ranch is packed with plans for growth and expansion.

First, they want to complete the schoolhouse, Margaret said. And eventually, they would like to add on for a widow ministry; because like the boys, widows are left lonely and desolate, she said.

But for now, the O'Quinns continue to focus on the boys.

"We are trying to restore back to them a hope that has been taken away," Margaret said.



Sonnie Easley plays with one of the ranch's baby goats. The boys tend to the goats on a daily basis.

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