



## Pacific Northwest Association of the Church of God

*Strengthening Churches and Leaders for Mission*

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April 5, 2010

Dear Churches of the Pacific Northwest Association of the Church of God:

At the February meeting of the PNA Board of Directors the following motion was made and passed:

"That the Board of Directors be resolved to begin exploring the possibility of selling the Double K Christian Retreat Center and using the revenue for other ministries."

The decision to start looking in this direction was not reached lightly or quickly. These are some facts about the situation at the camp:

- Double K operated with a deficit the last four fiscal years, and is already over \$43,000 behind budget this year (as of the end of February). Overall, Double K owes the PNA over \$120,000 to cover operating shortfalls.
- Each year fewer than 10% of the constituents of the PNA attend any event at Double K.
- We have been unable to garner enough interest in PNA youth camps. Double K has not hosted a PNA High School Camp in over four years, nor a Junior High Camp in over three years.
- We have great difficulty in finding leaders to fill two of the five positions on the Double K Board. This is a serious indication of the lack of support that Double K has among our churches.
- The Double K facilities are in need of being upgraded so that it can compete with the other modern, well-appointed camping facilities.
- Currently, less than 10% of rental revenues come from PNA and/or Church of God events.

In spite of these shortcomings, there are also positive indicators. For example, in just the past few weeks the camp has booked an international conference for a worldwide Korean Christian Church. Next year there is an event scheduled for over 200 people at Double K and this event alone will bring in over \$23,000 in gross

revenues. May and June 2011 are already filled with camps of over a hundred people each. The demand for camping facilities is on the increase.

The Double K Board and Director are doing the best job they can, considering the realities they face. The Double K Board supports the camp and believes it can prosper. They see signs that it is turning around and will be showing a profit in the next few years. Recently, two strong candidates have shown an interest in the open positions on the Board.

Nevertheless, in order to make the Double K a retreat center that is attractive to families and youth there are upgrades that would need to be made. Examples of what could be done at relatively small cost but with a big impact would be:

- Add approximately 30 new full hook-up campsites in the forested area between the road and the tabernacle. Families who own self-contained trailers expect full hook-up facilities when they go camping for a week. They shouldn't have to compete for the few full-hook sites now available.
- Add a shower/bathroom building at the edge of the new camping area and adjacent to the Tabernacle that would provide facilities for campers and for attendees at the Tabernacle events. Users of the Tabernacle would then have nice facilities close by, a far better option than what is available now.
- Upgrading our existing dormitories with a change of furnishings to be either a family-suite style or a more comfortable dormitory environment.
- Add teen-friendly and family activities such as sand volley ball courts, climbing walls, zip lines, etc.

If a decision is made to keep Double K, it would have to be made with the commitment to make these kinds of improvements to the facilities. Commitments would be needed to provide the funding to make the improvements immediately. There could be an exciting new future for this camp. But the camp cannot continue with the status quo. We either need to make improvements or sell the property. Doing nothing is not an option.

The PNA Board of Directors recognizes that the possibility of selling Double K is very troubling and we are not wishing to move ahead on this issue without input from the churches and individuals in the district. It is important that you pray that we might find God's direction in this matter. It is also very important that you let us know what you think. I would encourage you to contact Board members directly to convey your ideas and to attend the annual meeting in July. Your input in this decision is very important. We trust that with your prayers, counsel, and support we will know God's leading for this camp.

In His Service,

Dave Williams, Chairperson  
PNA Board of Directors