

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – AUGUST 17, 2010**

## **It Is Finished: 77'7" Cross Raised on IH-10 in Kerrville**

Kerrville, TX – The final concrete slab was poured August 9<sup>th</sup> to cover the footings of a two-million-dollar, 70-ton, 77'7" red-brown contemporary sculpture named *The Empty Cross*<sup>TM</sup>. After curing, the Cross was officially declared finished on August 16<sup>th</sup> and can now be viewed by visitors on a limited basis by appointment with **The Coming King Foundation** (TCKF). Guided tours are possible twice daily, at 9 am and 7 pm, until the main entrance on Benson Dr. is completed and opened. The public may contact TCKF at (830) 367-7706 or email [office@thecomingkingfoundation.org](mailto:office@thecomingkingfoundation.org).

Sudie Burditt, Director of the **Kerrville Convention & Visitors Bureau**, said: *"The Cross really does take your breath away. It's dignified and awe-inspiring. It's extremely difficult to look away from it once you see it."*

The Cross erection on July 27th capped an 8.5-year epic struggle to raise the Cross which included several financial "miracles," threats and attacks by atheists and others opposed to the Cross, many critical letters to the media and local city government, and a 15-month lawsuit filed by neighboring landowners, which was settled on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

*"I've been doing this [casting sculptures] for over 26 years,"* said Monte Paddleford, President of **Eagle Bronze**, Lander, WY, *"and we have cast around 5,000 monuments. This one [The Empty Cross<sup>TM</sup>] is different. This one leaves me without words. We are part of something here much bigger than us. It's by far the most significant project we have ever been part of. This is the beginning of something very big for God to begin a new chapter. It's very, very significant. The Cross will transcend the Garden, and Kerrville, and Texas, and will have world impact. People will be drawn to it supernaturally. People will feel that they have to go there and see it."*

The non-denominational Christian Garden and the seven-story hollow cross sculpture are the "vision" of artist/evangelist Max Greiner, Jr.. The spiritually symbolic, Cor-tin steel cross is the largest sculpture ever created by the artist and his foundry, **Eagle Bronze**. Greiner stated, *"I think The Empty Cross<sup>TM</sup> may be the most significant sculpture I have ever done. This piece of art has already touched the lives of millions of people and it's only been up two weeks!"* He added, *"People are already getting saved, healed and set free at the Cross."*

Many Christian-owned businesses donated their services to raise the Kerrville cross sculpture. Included are **Max Greiner, Jr. Designs** of Kerrville; **Eagle Bronze** of Lander, WY; **Choat Painting & Sandblasting** of Kerrville; **Alamo Crane Service** of San Antonio, TX; **Debsteel, Inc** of Spring Branch, TX; **Equipment Depot** of San Antonio, TX; **Town & Country Welding** of Kerrville; **Nixalite of America, Inc.** of East Moline, IL; **Cherokee Septic** of Kerrville and professional welders **Everett Blair**, **Daniel Wolfe**, **Earnest Taylor**, and **Rex Vandiver**.

**TCKF** still needs about \$200,000 to build the main entrance and first two parking lots on Benson Drive so the Garden can be opened to the public. Around two million dollars more is needed to build the interior roads and bathrooms for the **Sculpture Prayer Garden**. An additional eight million dollars is needed to build a Visitors Center, Amphitheater and Chapel. People around the world can currently watch "LIVE" streaming video of the Cross at the organization's website: [www.thecomingkingfoundation.org](http://www.thecomingkingfoundation.org)

To date, about two million dollars have been donated by generous Christians across America for the glory of God. In addition, three million dollars worth of monumental, contemporary Christ-honoring sculptures have been donated by three internationally-collected Christian artists. The sculptors are Beverly Paddleford of Lander, WY, David Broussard of Dallas, TX, and Max Greiner, Jr. of Kerrville, TX. The 23 acres of valuable land, that fronts IH-10, was donated by the Hershel Reid family of Dallas, TX.

For more information & the latest photographs contact: **The Coming King Foundation**, PO Box 290555, Kerrville, TX 78029 Phone (830) 367-7706 or email [office@thecomingkingfoundation.org](mailto:office@thecomingkingfoundation.org)