



ZEPHANIAH'S PROMISE RANCH

BACK AT THE RANCH . . .

February/March, 2013

No. 2, Volume 2



Is it really March already? We are continuing to make improvements on the barn and are doing our research in order to accommodate for the arrival of our first horse (Mac) in April! There are so many things to think about and plan for. Fortunately, we know a Higher Power is in control of this, so we are just moving forward as we can and know that it will all be the

way it is supposed to be. We endured nearly 2 weeks of freezing fog at the end of January. The effects were gorgeous, but WOW! It was COLD--in the teens and low 20s for the better part of January. Finally one day the sun came out and we suddenly realized how socked in we had begun to feel. Now we have had many dry days in a row, some windy, some not, but we can see the mountains again and that makes us feel so content! In February we were visited by our friends Phil and Julie (and Ryan and Leta) McCorkle. The rest of February slipped quietly by and in March more friends, Andy and Valorie Westland came and spent a night at the ranch. It has been so fun to see friends and share our vision of the ranch with them! We continue to pray and make preparations Mac's arrival and the June wedding.

ZP



ZAC TAILS: Have you ever had the opportunity to really fly? I don't mean like in your dreams or on a plane, but like a bird--just lift up, flap your wings and feel the wind through your ears? Not too long ago I had the opportunity to fly. It wasn't really something I thought about doing before--it just sort of happened. Maybe you've heard about Mr. Baggins--he's the latest rescued animal here at the Ranch--a big

black and white male tuxedo cat. He and I are pals and hang out at the barn on a regular basis. He seems to like me a little more than the other two kitties do, but maybe we are kindred spirits since I, too, was a rescue. Anyway, one afternoon shortly after Mr. Baggins arrived at the Ranch I was following Mom around as she was taking food and water up to the loft and spending some time with Mr. Baggins. He was underfoot and rubbing up against us both and excited to have the attention and the food. Mom and I spent some time up there with him and then it was time to go. I followed her down the stairs, then remembered I hadn't said goodbye to Mr. Baggins, so decided to go back up to check him out one last time. From down stairs I heard Mom calling me. She sounded so close, yet I knew she was downstairs. I followed the voice and realized she was on the other side of the stairs,

The LORD your God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing." Zephaniah 3:17

below the loft. I looked over the edge--I don't think she saw me, but I figured it wasn't too far of a leap. The next time she called "Cmon, Zac, let's go" I decided she must've really wanted me to jump. I would do anything for my people, even if it means sacrificing myself for them, and if she thought I could do it, then I knew I could. Just as I lifted off, our eyes met--she let out a yell of disbelief and I realized that maybe that wasn't what she had expected me to do, and I landed with a thud in the soft dirt below a split second later. I never felt fear, just was happy to be obedient.

I got up out of the dirt, shook off the dust, and trotted out of the barn like nothing had happened. Mom examined my legs, my face and my entire body but could find nothing amiss. I won't admit it but I was a little sore in the days following my flight because it was all in a day of being me--courageous, obedient, adventurous, sacrificial. Oh, and for a few glorious moments, airborne!

ZP

He knows my name. He knows my every thought.
He sees each tear that falls and He hears me when I call.

~Tommy Walker, Christian Artist

ZP

Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isaiah 40:28-31

ZP

Our mission/vision: To provide free equine experiences for youth in a safe, loving, and encouraging environment that is fun for both children and horses.

ZP

OTHER NOTEWORTHY NEWS:

Progress is being made! We have filed all the appropriate documentation and applications with the IRS. Soon we should be getting some acknowledgement from the IRS that they received everything. Now it is just a matter of waiting for the approval. While we wait, we are able to act and conduct business as a regular nonprofit organization. This month we held our first board meeting and adopted the bylaws and other documentation required for our existence!

If you are interested in making a tax deductible contribution to our foundation please contact us at steve@zephaniahspromise.org or robin@zephaniahspromise.org and we will forward you additional information.

ZP

If you would like to share this newsletter or know someone who would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact us at: robin@zephaniahspromise.org or steve@zephaniahspromise.org

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