

BACK AT THE RANCH...

February 2014

Finally, finally, we got some snow! Over a period of 3 days it began to build up...first just a few inches, which was nice, but not really beautiful and white. Then 6 or 7 inches so things began to beautify. Now nearly a foot in places...okay, that's maybe a bit much. Still, it's nice to feel like winter is here and makes up for all the freezing fog and negative temperatures. The horses are all together in the pasture now and can be seen huddled together in the run-in shed, grazing peaceably in the pasture, and cantering across the top of

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the property. They weathered the coldest of days (-3 with wind chill), survived the frost (even their eyelashes had frost on them), and the freezing rain. Zac has also had some adventures which you will read about below, but Mulan has decided that she will remain housebound until further notice.

We did have a 13-hour power outage earlier in the month. Luckily we had lots of wood, extra jugs of water, and plenty of candles to get us through.



Towards the end of January we added a new member to the ranch: Archimedes (aka Archi). A colleague of Steve's in the math department found 3 little kittens abandoned in a broken down car. According to our vet, aside from an infestation of ear mites, he was very healthy and probably about 9 weeks old. Mulan was a little slow to accept him, but now is finally taking on the role of big sister and is even acting playful again, a characteristic of her we have missed since we lost Jasmine late last year.



ZAC TAILS: Well, you've already read that we have a new kitten in our midst. I am actually okay with that--he's little enough and yet has quite a bit of spunk and seems pretty fearless. I enjoy that quality in a

cat, which is why Mr. Baggins and I are such good pals. I think Archi is a great addition, and I'm certain we will grow to be fast friends--as long as he stays off my bed. So far I've only allowed Mr. Baggins a small corner of my bed on a rare occasion (he's mostly an outdoor cat), but that's only because I respect him so much, and he's not in the house much any ways. And, you've also heard that the snow has arrived which provides me with the unique opportunity to not only blaze new trails, but also to follow the newly created path over and over again as I make my circuit. I also had what my people are calling the "snowplow



incident" where I supposedly had a near-miss encounter with a plow as it barreled up the street. I don't

know why they were so concerned...I knew exactly what was going on and was well out of the way before the spray of snow came up and over the fence where I had been moments before. I mean, I am a herder, you know...I know how to predict things and how to react.

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Where ever you are, be all there.

Jim Elliot, Missionary

Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to His voice, and hold fast to Him.

~Moses (Deuteronomy 30:19-20)

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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.

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OTHER NOTEWORTHY NEWS: February is heart-healthy month and Valentine's Day--a month to consider your health and a day to celebrate your loved ones. At Zephaniah's Promise Ranch, we celebrate life, love and all that is quietly happening in the background here at the ranch and know that as spring approaches and the land around us comes alive, there will once again be many more projects to consider--a new pasture to fence, power and water to provide to that new pasture, a stock trailer to provide transportation for rescue horses and take horses for training. As we quietly prepare we hope you will keep us in mind and plan a trip to come visit us soon!

We have many big projects gearing up for the spring as mentioned above. If you would like to help, please send donations to ZP Ranch, 11 Stirrup Lane, Goldendale, WA 98620. ZP Ranch is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductable.

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