



ZEPHANIAH'S PROMISE RANCH

## BACK AT THE RANCH...

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April 2014

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Some fun projects have been started outside! The first is the building of the chicken coop. It started out as a small project--using the old dog house as the actual coop and then putting some fencing around it. Then it evolved into more of a "chicken run": an 8 x 16 area with the hen house at one end. Now, though--oh my--it is becoming more like a "chicken condo" with a beautiful peaked roof (so Steve can actually stand up inside of it), a nice gate and now there is talk of paint. We still have a long way to go, but it's coming along nicely. The first of the

chicks have been purchased--a second hatching will arrive this week for a total of 6. We are looking into how to donate eggs to those in need in the community. I am excited about this project because it adds another dimension to the ranch and another opportunity for children to participate in more varied ways while they are here. The second big project is the building of the garden. The stakes are in, and there is a plan for 5 raised beds for veggies, plus some barrels for herbs. The thought behind this is also to provide additional opportunities for children to be actively helping here. While neither of these projects is directly funded by the nonprofit, we know they will bring a huge benefit to the ranch.

ZR

**ZAC TAILS:** Road trips! Every now and then my people seem to feel the urge to leave this beautiful haven and strike out to see other places and do other things. For me, "people vacation" pretty much means "extended sleep time." Twice in recent history I have been relegated to the truck for extended periods of time with short potty stops and leg stretches but never a place where I can run without a leash...until we finally arrived at our destination which this last time turned out to be the place I lived briefly after I decided my people were worth staying with. It has a nice yard and all, but really not my style. Given a choice, I preferred to roam the front yard and greet the passersby. There was the cute old lady with her two little dogs (they were smaller than Mulan, but I'm pretty sure they were dogs). There was the man and lady pushing something with a little person inside it. And there were plenty of cars, but I couldn't chase those the way I do at the ranch safely along the horse trail beside the road. Somehow dinner and breakfast didn't have the same appeal and I secretly hoped this was not going to be a permanent situation, though the house was mostly empty and didn't seem as much like "home" as it once did. Which leads me to the very best part of the whole trip: My people slept on the floor! I loved that I got to snuggle up next to them without the hassle of fighting off the cats! It really means a lot to me when once in awhile my people get down on my level and

*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*

live life (and sleep a night) with me. That's what I call sacrifice. Now....about my sleeping on the bed tonight....



I like this place and could willingly waste my time in it.  
~William Shakespeare, As You Like It

The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in Him; though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with His hand.

Psalm 37:23-24



*.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.*



*OTHER NOTEWORTHY NEWS:* Trees! We are hoping to make ourselves a little shade in the years to come, so this year at the annual tree and shrub sale we bought a few to plant around the property and see how they do. They are tiny, but hopefully will grow fast and withstand the severe weather and winds we sometimes have here. We have also received a couple of trees as gifts from friends which we will plant and nurture in the months ahead. Our Volunteer Workday is scheduled for May 17. "Bar-b-que at the Barn", is scheduled for June 14. This marks our opening weekend here at ZP Ranch. If you plan to participate in either of these events, please let us know!



We have many big projects underway this spring; more pasture fencing needs to be installed and one of the gates needs to be replaced. 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 deductible.



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Email us at: [robin@zpranch.org](mailto:robin@zpranch.org) or [steve@zpranch.org](mailto:steve@zpranch.org)

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