



ZEPHANIAH'S PROMISE RANCH

# BACK AT THE RANCH...

July 2014

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Summer is FINALLY here! And we asked for it, so we are not complaining about the 90-degree heat every day. The winds have calmed down too, so we are thankful for airconditioning and cold water to help keep us cool. The summer routine is in full swing and all four horses have adapted well to the change in weather and to all the kids that have been coming up to spend time here. We currently have 5 participants in our program with a couple more we expect to hear from soon. We have 4-5 sessions per week through the end of August and still have several open times if you are interested in coming out! Shana and Mac have both been patient, gentle, and willing members of the program--we are so blessed and happy to have them be part of our ranch. Hope is a huge draw with the kids too--her pretty painted colors, long neck, soft and gentle eyes, and her name lure the kids out to the fence to stroke her and feel her nuzzle their necks. Sweet and kind Gracie is still waiting for her forever home--she needs to be trained and we are hoping a 4H student or someone else will step in and give her the love and discipline she needs to help her be the great quarter horse she is meant to be. If you are reading this and know someone who might be interested please send us a quick email and/or forward this news letter to them!



ZR

**ZAC TAILS:** The nights out here are relatively quiet. After dinner, which seems to be later and later as



the summer days get longer and longer, I relax after a full day of activity.

Sometimes I can sneak out after dark and take a quick circuit around the house to make sure everything is in order. On clear moonless nights, I can see little points of light in the sky. My people call them stars and there are a lot of them. Mostly I see these stars at night but have you ever seen stars in the bright sunlight of day? If you do, they are accompanied by the sound of bells. Let me explain. I see it as part of my job to keep the other animals in line. When the cats start fighting (or even play fighting) I head over and break it up. When the horses are acting up, I go over and let them know what's what. The other day, all 4 of them were together by a fence and there was a lot of snorting, whinnying, and stomping going on. As is my duty, I went over to break it up. Well, no sooner than I could get a couple of words out when wham!, bells are ringing and I see stars. I know what you're thinking. I'm small and quick and

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nimble and should be able to keep out of the way but when there's 16 hoofs a fly'n , it's hard to keep track of all of them. Suffice it to say I am half a tooth lighter. Of course my vet had no sympathy saying, "Now he's a real ranch dog." Ain't she funny? I will say I took it like a man. No yipping or whining and was back on patrol in no time.

ZP

I wish for you the mountain's peace, the scented air of pines.

I wish that you may always walk beneath a sun that shines.

(found on a piece of paper in my mother's handwriting inside an old binder)

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

~John 14:27

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:** Steve completed two huge projects in the last few weeks. The third pasture is now enclosed complete with two gates and electric wire. It is currently occupied by Hope and Gracie, though both Mac and Shana have also spent a little time there to help eat down the tall grasses. It's so wonderful to look out our bedroom and living room windows to see horses grazing in our back yard! The second project was the irrigation ditch from the house to the garden! Robin started the ditch in haste one late spring morning, a few friends helped to deepen it a bit a few weeks later, and eventually it became a top project for Steve who finished the rest of the digging and then laying all the pipes. Thanks to some left over sand and our new tractor, filling in the ditch afterwards was super easy, and now I no longer need a 50-foot hose to water the raised beds. The hay is on order and should be available in the next week or so. Steve is gathering the paperwork and permits to build the hay shed off the back of the barn and then we can proceed!



**Financial support: We are getting ready to purchase enough hay for 4+ horses (16 tons!). In addition, we would like to build a shed off the back of the barn so the majority of the hay can be stored there and open up the inside of the barn for some other projects we have planned. 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.**



**LIKE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND GET THE WORD OUT!!**

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

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