



ZEPHANIAH'S PROMISE RANCH

## BACK AT THE RANCH...

March 2015

No. 3, Volume 4

Hard to believe it, but winter is pretty much over. Steve took the studded tires off his truck last week, and has wrapped up winter quarter at the community college. The hay shed is completed and even has some hay in it now, though most of what we have left is in the barn. We definitely have enough to get us through the beginning of summer, which is when the first cutting of the new crop will be. Our next "dream project" is to build an outdoor arena so that we can hold events like clinics and workshops this summer in addition to the children's program. Steve has begun trying to scratch and level an area for the arena--we have plenty of moguls near and around the area that we can level out to use to fill in some of the low spots. In the mean time, we are negotiating to get wood posts and rails for fencing, the base material will be donated by a local contractor, and we have volunteers ready to help build. Later in the newsletter we have more details about our upcoming 3rd Annual Volunteer Day.



**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.**

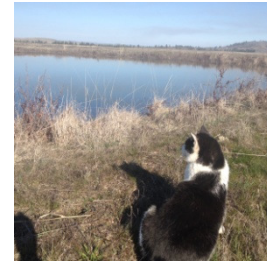


**ZAC TAILS :** The other day my person decided we should go exploring. We headed out on a clear, mostly windless afternoon. Down our long driveway, then across the bottom of the property and beyond along the gravel road. Then we turned north and traversed the land. My person said we would walk about 1.25 miles. But as I traveled to and fro, did my business, explored various holes, rolled in unspeakable mounds of stuff, and galloped ahead and back again, I knew I had travelled at least 3x the distance. Somewhere along the way I noticed that Mr. Baggins had decided to tag along as he often does. He did none of the frolicking and sniffing that I did. Instead he just trotted steadily



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

along behind my person. At the crossroads to our final destination, we made a side trip to what my person calls the inukshuk. It is a pile of rocks and stones and its definition is "guide" or "you are on the right path." It is appropriately placed at the bottom of the crossroad as if to show this is the way to the ranch. According to ranch legend, it was already there when we arrived back in 2012, so it has always been a special spot and we try to maintain it. We stopped briefly to catch our breath before continuing on to our destination, which was a pond a few acres away that we knew was there but had never explored. Once we arrived, I ran around to the far side to chase some ducks that were lazily swimming among the reeds while Mr. Baggins paused quietly on the other side to survey the surroundings. We were pretty far from home, so I doubt he had ever been out that way to explore. As we headed home again a short while later I noticed the inukshuk again, pointing me homeward and looked forward to a nice cold drink of well water and the promise of a restful evening at home.



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**One way to get the most out of life is to look upon it as an adventure.**  
~William Feather, Author and Publisher

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The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.

Isaiah 58:11 (NIV)

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### **SADDLE STORIES:** Update on Gracie: Taylor

Gordon of Diamond T Horsemanship continues to make great progress with our filly. There was a bit of a setback when she picked up a rock in her hoof that festered, but she is doing fine now. Taylor continues to get her used to being tacked up and ridden. She is getting de-sensitized to common things like spray bottles and being dewormed orally. She now sports 4 shoes and she even gets into our little horse trailer! You can visit Taylor's website at <http://www.diamondthorsemanship.com/> to read about his philosophy and training techniques.



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### **OTHER NOTEWORTHY NEWS:** ♦ Zephaniah's Promise Ranch recently received the [GuideStar Exchange Silver level logo](#), a leading symbol of transparency and accountability provided by GuideStar



USA, Inc., the premier source of nonprofit information. The logo demonstrates our deep commitment to nonprofit transparency and accountability. From here you can see our financial information, our IRS forms, and our budget. You can also make a donation from this site.

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◆ **REMINDER:** Several of you went through the short process to link their Fred Meyer's Rewards card with Zephaniah's Promise Ranch through Fred Meyer Community Rewards. **Thank you!!!** Each year Fred Meyer's donates over 2.5 million dollars to nonprofit organizations. If you shop at Fred Meyer and have a rewards card, please take a moment to log in and visit their Community Rewards link. You can click here and then sign in. <https://www.fredmeyer.com/topic/community-rewards-4> If you aren't a Rewards Card Holder, but want to sign up, here's your chance to earn rewards not only for yourself, but also have a donation sent to our nonprofit on a quarterly basis.

◆ **SAVE THE DATE:** June 6th is our 3rd Annual Volunteer Work Day! If you would like to come out and help for a few hours or even all day, please let us know! Lunch will be provided for those who are here over the noon hour. We will have several other smaller projects in addition to the arena--there will be something for everyone to participate in that will help prepare the ranch for the summer. The children's program will begin the following week--stay tuned for dates and times of operation.

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**FINANCIAL UPDATE:** ◆ All our hay has been purchased and is now stored in our newly completed hay shed!! June is right around the corner, so the whole hay purchasing process will begin again soon. Thank you for all who supported our efforts to purchase all the hay we need for our horses! ◆ We have plans to begin working on a large arena this spring. Any dollars designated for this project will be a huge help! ◆ All the horses are due for teeth floating and hoof trims. This is a pricey endeavor. If you would like to designate funds specifically for these projects, please specify when you make your donation.

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. You can also donate through Guidestar--see note above.



**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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