



ZEPHANIAH'S PROMISE RANCH

## BACK AT THE RANCH...

April 2015

No. 4, Volume 4

**BIG NEWS!!** The arena has been excavated with much gratitude to our friend Randy! The next step is to have holes drilled around the arena so that we can put the posts in. So today Steve and I (mostly Steve) finished staking out where each of the holes need to be drilled. THEN, we want to invite you all up here to help us on June 6th at our 3rd Annual Volunteer Work Day from 9 to 4 to put the cross bars up! It's an easy process but it does take several people to do each bar. In addition we have several other projects for those of you who desire to help in other areas. There are several "beautification projects," some rock moving, and some leather cleaning. If we hear from enough of you we have a few other ideas of things that can be done so those who want to rotate through around can work on different things. Please let us know if you plan to come! Lunch will be provided for those who are here over the noon hour. The children's program will begin the following week...stay tuned for dates and times of operation. **By the way**, if you want to come the night before to experience the morning routine and a hearty breakfast, or if you want to stay later at the end of the work day on Saturday, we have two guest rooms available. Let us know if you are interested!



And, just as a teaser, one of the reasons we felt led to get the arena built sooner than later is that we are planning a clinic later this summer--we are putting the details together now and will be choosing a date very soon. We hope to coordinate the clinic with a week-long opportunity to schedule actual riding lessons for kids who would like some instruction!

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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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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

**ZAC TAILS :** We've been traveling a lot on the weekends. When we travel, what that means for me is I get to sit in the back seat of a car and watch the world go by. Well actually I don't watch the world go by, if I do, my stomach starts to get a little queasy so mostly I just lay on the floor and wait for those times when my people stop and let me out. Sometimes when they stop, I don't get out, what's that all about? Sometimes when we stop, we get out and go into some strange room for the night with a hundred different smells and sounds that keep me up all night. I'm not quite sure why we're away from the safety and familiar sounds/smells of home but I have to trust that my people will take care of me. Trust is a tricky thing, it's scary at first. Like the first time they left me in the house and said to "take care of things, we'll be back soon". I didn't know if they would be back so I sat and waited, and waited, and waited (probably only 30 minutes or so but 30 minutes in dog years is a long time). After a while they came back, just like they said. After several more of these episodes I just started trusting they would be back and enjoyed the time to catch up on some sleep or to make sure the cats were not getting into mischief. It's nice to have someone to trust in. It keeps the worrying to a minimum and there is a great reward at the end (more than just a nice treat to eat). If you haven't been big on trusting, give it a try. Maybe you'll encounter some disappointments but maybe not and when it works out, you'll have a great feeling. The only thing I haven't been able to figure out is what those cats do when we're traveling for a couple of days without me there to keep an eye on them. I'm sure they are probably up to no good.

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Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength, and my song, and he has become my salvation. Isaiah 12:2 (ESV)

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I agree to fire myself from being God because my fight for control is a screaming testament to my distrust." Beth Moore, Children of the Day

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**SADDLE STORIES:** Gracie is home! She is currently what they call "Started" which means we can now halter her up, pick out her hooves, do some ground work with her, and begin developing our new relationship with her as a respectful and happy horse. She has been ridden by our trainer but at this point she is only ready for a very experienced horseman. We will continue to search for her "forever home," but in the meantime will give her a break from her intense training and work outs and just let her be "a horse" for awhile and enjoy the pasture and some fun playtimes. Training will resume in September if the funding is available and her attitude continues to be reasonable. We also have plans to take Mac to Taylor for a quick two-week tune up to ensure he is ready for this summer's program. When we pick Mac up at the end of the two weeks, Steve and I also will get some riding lessons so that we can advance our skills and I'm sure we will have a fun Saddle Story or two to tell!

You can visit Taylor's website at <http://www.diamondhorsemanship.com/> to read about his philosophy and training techniques.

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**OTHER NOTEWORTHY NEWS:**

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◆ We were just notified by Fred Meyers Community Rewards that we have four families currently linking their Rewards card with Zephaniah's Promise Ranch. **Thank you!!! We hope more of you will choose to help us out in this way.** You can click here and then sign in.

<https://www.fredmeyer.com/topic/community-rewards-4> Thanks to a suggestions from several other people, we are looking into linking up with Amazon and eBay as they also give charitable donations. To confirm that you did sign up correctly, be sure to check the bottom of your receipt to see if it mentions that a donation will be made to Zephaniah's Promise Ranch.

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**FINANCIAL UPDATE:** ◆ Two of the horses had their teeth floated earlier this month, and three of them had their hoofs trimmed. These are requirements of ongoing horse health. To trim one horse's hooves is \$30, teeth filing is roughly \$200 per horse, and a ranch call is between \$25 and \$90 depending on the situation. If you would like to designate funds specifically for veterinary expenses, please specify when you make your donation.



Donations can be sent 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--just click on the link below.



The [GuideStar Exchange Silver level logo](#), demonstrates our deep commitment to nonprofit transparency and accountability.



**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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