



ZEPHANIAH'S PROMISE RANCH

## BACK AT THE RANCH...

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December 2015

*Merry Christmas!!!* And here at the ranch it's a white Christmas, too! Beautiful and COLD! I spent the better part of one afternoon reviewing the year at the ranch. How many visitors, kids, sessions. It is always so encouraging for us to see the participants at our volunteer day each year, but also in the number of visitors who call to say "can we come see your place?" We always love the excuse to show the place off to people, but we also hope that we share it with a great sense of humility, because we know we would not be here without the grace of God and His wisdom and guidance. Looking back on our summer program we wanted to share a few statistics with you because it means so much to us when people participate in our program and throughout the year. We held 29 summertime sessions, with 13 kids, 4 weekend sessions with 7 kids, and had a grand total of 46 visitors (including 13 who helped assemble our arena on our 3rd Annual Volunteer Day) and used 3 horses and a burro as part of the program. We had enough donations to not only cover the cost of hay and grains, but also to rebuild a run-in shed, pay veterinarian and farrier bills, send Gracie to training, and cover the costs incurred with the loss of Shana. We feel blessed beyond measure because of the loving kindness of new and old friends and family. Thank you for your prayers, labor, financial gifts, and participation. We look forward to see what God has planned for 2016!

ZP

**ZAC TAILS:** Another beautiful full moon at the ranch. With the clear skies and low wind, the days here are very cold but beautiful. I have noticed a new stillness on the ranch ever since Shana left us. Things are moving a little slower, a little more quietly, a little....softer. Almost like we don't want to disturb nature as it begins its hibernation. It is mostly because of the cold, for sure, but with the loss it is even more accentuated. I still do my rounds of herding the other horses (and chickens and cats), and I still monitor other movements around the ranch. We have had

No. 12, Volume 4



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



quite a few doorstep visits from our mail lady and the UPS man--I'm good friends with them both and my people finally got the great idea to give them each a box of dog biscuits to pay them back for all the treats I have received from them this last year. As I recall, we still have many months ahead of cold, windy and wet days, but for now we are all enjoying the sun sparkling on the snowy pastures. I hope you give all your furry friends an extra Christmas hug and snuggle--we love the extra attention and we love to be loved. Knowing we are loved is the greatest gift of all!

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This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. I John 4:9-10

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Silent night, Holy night  
 Son of God, love's pure light  
 Radiant beams from thy holy face  
 With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
 Jesus, Lord at thy birth  
 Jesus, Lord at thy birth.  
  
 ~ Joseph Mohr, Franz Gruber, Mark Hanson

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**OTHER NOTEWORTHY NEWS** : We've had some really touching responses from friends of the ranch regarding our loss of Shana last month. From caring condolences and expressions of shock, to pictures and kind words. This is Elsa on Shana last summer--one of only two little girls who had the privilege of sitting on her this summer because of her arthritic knee. Her Mom, Maren, writes: "[Elsa] just looks so completely happy...this is a perfect example of the wonderful contribution you make to the community!" We both confessed to becoming emotional on seeing this beautiful picture--both happy and sad tears.



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**FINANCIAL UPDATE:** Beginning next month any undesignated funds we receive will go towards building up our veterinarian fund as we will be scheduling teeth floating and farrier work in February. Floating teeth entails sedating each of the horses and grinding

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down their back teeth to make their chewing more comfortable. If you would like to help, \$20, \$30 or \$50 will make a big difference! 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.

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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.

ZP



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)

We are currently at 212 likes! Keep spreading the word!!

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