

All The King's Horses Children's Ranch



THE TRAIL RIDER

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THE BABE

*Good Christian
people,
here is for you
an inestimable loan.
Take all heed
thereof ...*

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IRS STATUS
ATKHCR is a 501c3
non-profit corporation.

Someone Else's Child

Joseph -- the most notable 'step' father in existence without the slightest hint of accolade. This tender-hearted and gentle man of God did what few men have done through the ages -- raised Someone Else's Child. The fact that Jesus was who He was may have made fathering Him all the more intense. What do you think? Would being the foster dad of the Christ child have felt like a heavy load if you'd been Joseph? Surely this grown man's life was never the same, amen?

I wonder if any of the Old Testament verses about the fatherless went through his head as he slept fitfully -- until -- *"while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not ..."* Matt. 1:20a.

This Christmas season as we ponder the Birth of Christ and what all that means, let us also ponder His 'parents'. A young couple with a decidedly rich religious background, an average couple without extraordinary means, a couple who waited upon God for answers, a couple who surrendered homes, families, and their own expectations because of the call of God on their lives. How did they do such a thing? Purely by trusting in Him who is worthy of our trust and obedience.

For those of you who have raised someone else's child, thank you for having the very heart of God who adopts believers and calls us "sons and daughters". I was adopted; and the older I get, the more of a wonder that concept holds for me.

For those of you who may be hearing simultaneous calls to "go into all the world preaching the gospel" and "admonish the fatherless", please realize you may be an answer to prayer for The Children's Ranch.

At this Christmas season, we are petitioning the Throne of Grace for a very special gift -- the gift of people who will leave houses and lands to join ATKH in nurturing the fatherless. If you are that couple, hear the words that God spoke to Joseph, "*Fear not*". Just think, you will be a gift -- a father and mother -- to a child who will never be the same -- because of you.

Even as we petition the Lord for such a gift, we thank Him for the greatest Gift already given 2,000 years ago -- Christ our Lord.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

WHAT THE RANCH MEANS TO ME FROM TWO YAGs (YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP)

The Ranch to me is a place of spiritual fellowship with Miss Ana, the godly woman she is, and other Christian teens. It's a place for me to have fun playing games, talking and to just help out in any way I can. The weekly youth groups are the best, and I can hardly wait for the upcoming Jesus Birth Celebration.

It's a great thing to see cars constantly coming and going like I do now. All of them bring people that want to help out. The Ranch is currently overflowing with occupants, mostly RVers fleeing the cold weather. The workshop is getting built and tons of others things are getting done. The Ranch is growing before our very eyes.

Stephanie L.

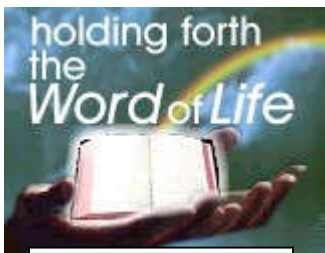


Stephanie is the girl on the left in sandals. On the trip to Bookmans

All The King's Horses Children's Ranch has always meant a safe haven, a quiet place to draw closer to God. And yes, it's also a place to see friends, play games and basically encourage one another. I love to see all the things the Lord is doing here. I hope that many, many other kids will find their save haven here, as I have.

Miriam G.

DAY TRIP



the Book of books

Because of the recent generosity of a dear lady, the Ranch chose six young people to explore Bookman's, a Tucson book and game exchange store. What a day of discovery! You can imagine the spectrum of choices that assailed the young people. Every imaginable temptation called out for notice. I was most happily relieved to see the wise choices this small group selected. My sincere recognition of their selections and my happy "way to go" brought smiles and looks of "We knew you'd approve."

DECEMBER EVENTS

On the 19th, if the weather proves conducive, a friend of the family will fly his plane into the Benson Airport from Las Vegas. The afternoon will be invested in taking interested youth to the sky for a birds' eye view of our community.

On the 26th is the annual JESUS BIRTH CELEBRATION with singing carols, riding horses and go-carts, face painting, games and crafts. Lots of happy laughter and voices fill the Ranch air with the most joyful of noises – children at play.

WHAT IS GOING ON?

Stephanie referred to all the stuff that is getting done around here. For sure – the barn is almost completed. The storage shop was emptied when the Martins moved and is being transformed into a full-fledged workshop. The concrete floor was poured the first weekend of December and electric will soon be installed.



Then the equipment in the Mule (the vandalized double wide currently used to house tools) will be shifted over to the Workshop.

The old Mule will become the new *Katherine Mejia Chuck Wagon* – a place where groups can meet together. Not only our local teens will come together for functions in the KM Chuck Wagon, but visiting missionary teen groups, as well. The front half of the Wagon will be open -- leaving a good-sized 12' x 60' room for tables and chairs.

Who is Katherine Mejia, you might ask? Katherine is the lady who sold the property to The Ranch. Her more-than-fair proposition is what enabled the Ranch to have land ... the first step toward a safe haven for children. In her honor and as a way of saying, “*Thank you, Katherine*”, we are naming the Chuck Wagon.



Foreman Needed

The Ranch needs a foreman to oversee the animal and agricultural projects. Ana spoke with the high school Principal; they discussed the possibility of the Ranch being available for some of the FFA (Future Farmers of America) students who need a place to practice riding farm equipment or caring for animals. Also 4-H projects could begin – with 4-Hers from The Ranch being represented at the Cochise County Fair each year.



There is a simply-made manger for the barn .. a special little symbol of One Who created animals and loved them enough to be born among them. If you love animals and children like He does, are you the one He is calling here?

Thank you for Your Help

Your prayers and support have been deeply appreciated. Now there is one other thing I dare to ask you: Please post this newsletter in your church or share with those who have a Holy Spirit call to co-labor with Christ at this mission. If you use Facebook, please post this opportunity to serve the Master at the Ranch by serving others. Hand this newsletter along as the Lord leads.

Your hands are considered Ranch hands. 😊

FORE!warned

The Second Annual Cochise County Men's Amateur Golf Championship will be held in 2010. Details on dates and locations will follow and be posted on this website. This fundraiser is hosted by Terry and Denise Celentano; not only to raise funds for The Ranch, but to distinguish the best amateur-division golfer in this county.

If you are an avid golfer and would like to test your abilities with the best locals, please contact Terry, or his wife Denise, at 520.586.7314. You will have a fun — and challenging — time knowing that you are among the area's finest athletes AND that your dollars go toward supporting ATKH Children's Ranch.

Congratulations to the
2009 Champion
Oscar Gomez
Douglas, Arizona



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