

All The King's Horses Children's Ranch



THE TRAIL RIDER

Mar, Apr, May 06

Volume 8 issue 2

LITTLE WOMEN'S RETREAT

On March 17th The Children's Ranch hosted eleven young ladies ages eight to fifteen for an overnight adventure. The theme of our time was "Prefer One Another With Kindness". Nora Vasquez assisted. Nora is a missionary with many years and many countries of experience. Her calling is to work with children. What a joy to have her. Nora's dedicated life to Christ and her example of purity and holiness mixed with vigor and a ready giggle amazingly enriched the Retreat. The young ladies loved her. My mom even dropped by and refurbished a newly-donated vacuum cleaner for us. Just in time. We put it to good use. Thanks, mom.

The Retreat began with a formal dinner – everyone served one another. The table settings were perfect. The group divided into the white team and the black team. We talked of Jesus' love and what He did after His dinner, His last supper. The girls paired up and washed one another's feet. Afterward, we polished toe nails and spruced up for our little Esther fashion show – each girl kindly introducing the other. Then dessert – I gave an example of how to make a Sundae. I introduced vanilla ice cream as our hearts made pure by the Blood of Christ; we add sprinkles of prayer; and nuts of hugs; a cherry of good deeds, and whip cream of kind words ... and then ... yes... dog poop on top. Just a little. Does just a little unkindness hurt? The girls said, "Yuck! Is that real dog poop?" We have a real dog and he cheerfully donated his best to the project. Of course, that example went in the trash and the girls served fresh creations. Perhaps whenever they see ice cream, they will remember to strive toward holiness.

The night ended early with me "retreating" back to The Pony (the single wide). Nora camped out at The Palomino – bless her Lord! Following morning breakfast was a success with Susie coming to our rescue. Then a scavenger hunt followed by a game where each team had a puzzle with instructions to work together. Unbeknownst to them, each puzzle had half the pieces of the other. As each team opened their box, they realized pieces were missing and others did not belong. With the groups on either side of the living room, Nora encouraged them to "work together."

Then the best part – a time of special prayer. Nora took one team and I took the other. As I sat in the circle with my group, a sweet, respectful and profound quiet overtook our hearts. The Word of the Lord moved on them. All wanted prayer for parents – and for the Lord to help them at home. We agreed our families need Jesus.

Thank you for joining in prayer for these young women: the next generation of souls to follow Him Who intercedes for us all (Romans 8:34); to Him into Whom we can all retreat.

**An ounce of mother
is worth
a pound of clergy.**

Spanish Proverb

**HAPPY
MOTHERS DAY
May 14th**

P O Box 2063
Benson, AZ 85602
520-586-0267
520-730-9793

hisranch@msn.com
atkchildrensranch.org

President
Ana Lucore

Vice President
Susan Vaughn

Programs Director
Ruby James

Treasurer
Jim Cox

Secretary
Kathy Stevens

Chaplain
Mark Stevens

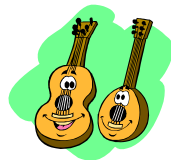
Donations
No donation goes for
personal gain.
We are a 501c3
non-profit corporation.
Your gifts receive a
tax-deductible receipt.

PROGRESS AT THE RANCH -- WITH THE PLACE

We affectionately call the donated double wide, "The Palomino". Wonderful volunteers worked day and night to get it ready for children. New exterior paint, new windows, new interior paint, plumbing, skirting, interior trim and a complete face lift on the kitchen cabinets and walls. The project is ongoing – the bathroom drywall to finish; two bedrooms to paint and a closet to install and the porch to complete with the ramp, posts and railings. We trust the Lord to send workers for these needs.

The volunteers worked for a week and a half. Five folks from Colorado and a couple all the way from Minnesota arrived with a smile. Bob & Arlene spent their one-week vacation working here. Bob is a school psychologist. We had some rousing discussions about the state of childhood education and behavior and the place the Lord has in it all. Bob met with his brother, Richard, from Minnesota. The two brothers with their wives had a mini reunion

while happily repairing the roof and building the porch. At night they played guitars and harmonicas while we all sang.



For five consecutive days, a different church catered dinner to us: The

Benson Baptist, then the Presbyterian, Wednesday night the United Methodist, followed by the Assembly of God, ending with the Dragoon Baptist Church. Food and fellowship were heavenly! What a blessing to look forward to a home-cooked meal pre-prepared and delivered with Christians gathering in Jesus' Name and for His purposes.

The time with our dear friends and family in Christ, the volunteers, went all too quickly. With sweet tears of love, we hugged goodbye with hopes of seeing each other again next winter. **THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!** Your lives, your work, your character, your conversation all display the Lord Who abides in you.

PROGRESS AT THE RANCH -- WITH THE PEOPLE

The Palomino was more than adequate to host our maiden event – The Little Women's Retreat. AND this is the big news: AND a ministry will move into it, we hope, by July. It is called Bundles of Promise. Michel is the mom who takes in children of incarcerated mothers; and infants who are born to women in prison. Just think : the first home up and running by summer's end.

AND a second home right behind it, Lord willing. Bradford & Carmen Martin of Vail, AZ answered the call to be houseparents. In fact, the Lord had been readying them for this position over the last couple years.

Michel and Brad and Carmen have undergone an extensive interview and application process for The Children's Ranch. We have on-going communication and we are in continual prayer to ensure both they and we follow the direction of the Lord.

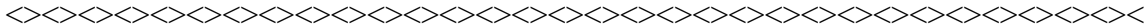


CAMP – THE BIG HEIST

This year’s camp dates are July 24th – July 28th. Camp is open for ages eight to eighteen. Those older who have a vibrant walk with the Lord are welcome as mentors. Thanks to generous sponsors like you, The Children’s Ranch covers the cost for those who could not otherwise attend. Camp theme is THE BIG HEIST. Your prayers are vital. Some children come to camp ready to hear from the Lord; others come for the first time. The first-timers’ hearts will be touched by the Lord in a way that can, if they’re willing, profoundly change their lives. I am excited knowing what the Lord will do that week. Thank you for praying, mentoring, giving, transporting and loving to make this event possible.



You make me and the children happy campers!



WATER – BERACHAH

Since physically locating onto the Ranch property October '04, the director has hauled drinking water by hand from friends’ homes in Benson. The easiest way found thus far is to haul water in empty milk jugs. The precious liquid is easiest to maneuver in one-gallon jugs. The old well on the property is not safe for drinking. It is only 80’ deep with water at the 41’ level – surface water fit only for showers, dishes, cars, lawn.



Hauling water will grow more cumbersome as the Ranch population grows. The board agrees it best to dig a new well deep enough to ensure both quantity and quality.

Genesis 16:14 indicates the Hebrews named their wells. The Hebrew word for well is “Beer” (bah-air). I find it no coincidence our term for Beer brings to mind a beverage other than water. So I have wondered – what could we name a new well? Beer-something would not accurately apply.

Second Chronicles 20 describes a victorious battle won in the valley of Berachah (bair'-dah-kah): a name that caught my eye. Berachah means blessing. We need a huge blessing from the Lord to be the recipients of a new well. As you know, wells are extremely costly to procure.

Please join me in petitioning Abba for His Berachah. The day the well becomes a reality, let’s have a well-naming celebration.

The Well of Berachah – the water of blessing from our Lord.



IS ANYONE ANSWERING? (Rev 3:20)



A nurse on the pediatric ward, before listening to the little ones' chests, would plug the stethoscope into their ears and let them listen to their own hearts. Their eyes would always light up with awe, but she never got a response to equal four-year old David's comment. Gently she tucked the stethoscope into his ears and placed the disk over his heart. Listen, she said...what do you suppose that is? He drew his eyebrows together in a puzzled line and looked up as if lost in the mystery of the strange tap - tap - tapping deep in his chest. Then his face broke out in a wondrous grin and he asked,

"Is that Jesus knocking?"

PROGRESS AT THE RANCH -- WITH YOUR PRAYERS

The Lord is honoring your prayers and your investment in this work. I am most humbled to see His Hand moving His resources and His people into this place ...for children...for His glory. If you know couples with a mission-heart, I invite them to contact us. Perhaps they can be part of The Lord's progress at The Children's Ranch

This thank you comes to you with a tender, sincere hug.



**NON-PROFIT BULK
MAILING
PERMIT #35**