



Where to begin? Finally! Here's time to compose some wonderful news to you. I can't help but smile. You will, too. There is so much good news ahead. But first let's applaud the events that have happened since the last Trail Rider.

Baby Rescued – C.J. is Susie's 16-year old grandson. Over the summer CJ went to Utah to spend time with his stepdad. Only the Lord knew how important CJ's visit would be for his step brother, a toddler who walked too close to the pool. CJ's 12 – year old sister, Holly, was first to spot the toddler face-down in the water. Horrified she began to scream.

Cameron ran to find the hysterical young girl. When he saw Holly, his eyes immediately followed her gaze to the pool. There was the lifeless form of a drowned baby. CJ jumped in and pulled the unconscious toddler from the water.

Poolside CJ knelt down next to the motionless body. He administered mouth-to-mouth resuscitation while Holly ran to dial 9-1-1. Not deterred by the baby's blue color or deathlike gaze, CJ continued to breathe for the baby .. breath after breath .. breath after breath.

Then something happened. It would have grossed CJ out any other time. But this time, joy leapt into his heart – a joy hard to describe. What happened? The baby vomited in CJ's mouth when he was in the life-breathing position.

The medics arrived and whisked the baby off to the nearby hospital. The toddler was fine. Not a sign of ill affects. A happy ending.

CJ said he attended boy scouts for a few short weeks where he learned CPR. Praise the Lord! CJ is one of the Children's Ranch helpers. He is a mentor to the younger kids; and an inspiration to us oldsters, as well. We love you, CJ. Good work, young man. Good work!!

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A BIG THANK YOU TO JESUS' HANDS MINISTRY

Jim & Karen McChesney have a heart for the youth and began the Jesus' Hands youth ministry. This start up work blossomed quickly as the Lord sent young person after young person to Jim's youth meetings on Wednesdays. Jim affectionately calls the young people, "Yute". The Children's Ranch has been invited to be a part of their activities.

In October, the McChesney's opened their hearts, their acreage and their home to Yute for a weekend of camping; riding horses; biking; bible study and church. Saturday night we watched one of my boy's football game; then to the Benson rodeo. During the rodeo, we sat on the edge of the cold, metal bleacher seats when the bull got loose and gouged a well-trained horse.

The Benson Rodeo announced all proceeds would go to The Children's Ranch! My heart melted with humility. The town was duly represented; and folks cheered on our work. Thank You, Jesus!! And thank you, Rodeo Committee.



After the rodeo, nineteen Yute were trucked to McChesney's. When I given an appropriate lecture on behavior, I drove the ten miles home and prayed through the night, "O, Father, let this be a positive experience for Jim and Karen..." Sunday morning I returned to see the Yute cooking breakfast with Karen overseeing - there was merriment in the air. It was The Lord. What a sight! The McChesney's were smiling! I could barely believe my eyes.

Both Jim and Karen's retired military background came out of retirement. They had no trouble keeping order. Whining and procrastinating were greeted with detached observance; while the mildly-toned order was repeated. For example: "...But we don't know how to put up tents..." was met with, "Fine. You'll know how by the time the night is over." When someone complained that they didn't think they could bike all the way to St David, they were encouraged, "Don't you know you can do all things through Christ?" One life lesson followed another. Now the word is out. Other young Benson scholars want to come 'next time.'

I kept herding the children out of the McChesney's home back outside, "What are you doing in here? Please go out and join the group." Interaction with the children was mainly with Jim and Karen. What an answer to prayer! A lot of these young people do not get to see a man and wife inter-relate; others have no male figure who takes time to interact with them. Jim told me when the Lord first spoke to him about youth ministry, he responded, "Lord, I'm not gentle. I'm a drill sergeant. Couldn't you get someone else?" To which Abba whispered, "If you don't do this work, Jim, then who will?" Thank you, Jim and Karen, for loving Jesus and loving children.

Also a big Thank you, Jason and April who helped with driving and horseback riding!
God bless you REAL much!

Jim recently asked the Wednesday night group, "Why do you come here?" One 13-year old Yute wrote the following: "I want to build a better relationship with God so I make it into heaven. It's the right thing to do. It makes me a better examplar to little kids, and I want God to look down on me and for Jesus to say, "Man! I love that Josh! Me and Him are like this!" and He'll hold His pinkies together. Its just so important to me..." Josh Woods 10/22/03

OTHER JESUS' HANDS & CHILDREN'S RANCH UPCOMING EVENTS

While praying with Susie and Karen, Karen looked up from prayer and suggested we join forces for Thanksgiving. So as the Lord makes a way, we intend to feed the homeless, indigent and elderly November 27th. This meal is an offering from us to the Lord - a meal without cost to those who partake. I am encouraged to learn a vision for a Whosoever-Will-May-Come Thanksgiving Dinner is on other hearts too! We have no idea how many will come. We have asked the Lord to be Head Chef so we need not worry about having enough. I am so grateful our Lord has all the time and resources we need, aren't you?

A VISION OR A MIRAGE?

Last summer I paced groaning in prayer. *"Lord, is this a vision I have from You, or is it merely a mirage? Please, Lord, let me hear from You. We are in this same place for over three years. We rent. We cannot grow. We cannot build. We cannot even have pets!"* The phone rang. I grabbed up the receiver as I tried to compose myself from fervent prayer. The call was from another state half-way across America.

"Ana. We have been in prayer. We want to see The Children's Ranch on its own property. What will it take? Write it all down and send it to us."

I was amazed! I gushed, *"You will never know how much this phone call means to me. Even if nothing else happens; this call is direct answer to my prayer just now."* I agreed to get something on paper and send it right along.



Last week this dear humble soul visited in person; and asked to be known only as "the generous Benson donator". The \$10,000 donation comes with a challenge to committed souls to match it. The donator shared the vision; had a word of scripture; a couple cute stories and prayer with Susie and me. I can not tell you how this is affecting me. With the \$15,000 we have in the CD, this donation-and-match should be enough for property sellers to take us seriously, f'sure.

To bring the \$10,000 Match-Challenge to folks, here is what we are thinking. Details are not worked out yet; but this is what is we have so far. On Thursday, February 12th there will be a "Double Donation Dinner" at the Turquoise Valley Golf Course. Ten tables of ten folks each should be sufficient to match the challenge. Each table will have one host/ess responsible to invite nine sponsors to join them with the specific goal of matching the gift. Each group of ten will decorate their table with a theme. Participants will vote on the most creative theme and a small recognition award will be presented to the winners.

Board member Kathy Stevens (hi, Kathy) suggested some hosts could be companies. We liked that idea, too. We have some time to consider input. If the Lord lays ideas on your heart to share, please do! For those of you who live out of town and would like to visit February 12th for the Double Donation Dinner, let me know. You can sit at my table, ok?

FRIENDS & FAMILY

My young married friend, Rachel Hall, visited from Tonasket, WA in September. Rachel flew down to spend time with the children. She has such an impact on the young ones; especially the girls. Rachel lets the girls hang on her; combs their hair; smiles; giggles with them and gives the **bestest** hugs in the whole world. She helped escort the youngens around the Cochise County Fair.

The Lord sent Rachel in the nick of time as the State dropped off two traumatized children: a six-year old boy; and his eight-year old sister. We could not calm them down no matter what. After quiet prayer, we agreed to walk to the park about two miles down hill. You know what we learned? It is very hard to walk and cry at the same time! God is so good! Thank you, Rachel, for your love of children and your encouragement to this work. And thank you, Jason, for blessing your wife with the freedom to give of herself to this ministry.

Kathy Guttromson also visited a couple days from WA. She was in AZ for the American Interpreters' Conference. Kathy is a Spanish interpreter. Her husband, Moose (can you guess his size?), and she are missionaries. They have a love of foreign lands and indigent people. Their ministry is called Siervos: Spanish for "servants". They are servants indeed to the Master and to His Body. Thank You, Lord, for bringing Kathy for a visit.

Thank you, Joe & Donna for helping me with airline tickets to Buffalo. What a time I had visiting the area; the old stomping grounds of the cabin; my dad's grave; my sisters; brothers; cousins; uncles; aunts; friends! Ten days went by like ten hours. If the Lord make a way I would like to return August 7th, '04. The Lucore Family Reunion committee changed the date to accommodate my commitment for Broken Arrow Summer Camp. Now if the Lord wills; I can attend the annual Lucore reunion for the first time in over a decade! I'm giddy just thinking another miracle may be on the way!

PRAYER

Every one of you is too special to me. Y'know why? Because the Lord laid it on your hearts to stay interested in what we do - where we're headed - and how He is getting us there. This is such a big vision, that when it happens, we will all be in awe. We will all join together saying,

"To God Be The Glory. Great Things He Hath Done!"

All The King's Horses Children's Ranch
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