

TW Quarter Circle Ranch Ministries July/August 2009 Prayer Letter

I am sorry that this is so late getting out. I almost have another ready to go just from September. We have been so busy, it's been amazing! A week goes by and there's been so much going on that it seems like a month. Here are the highlights of July and August. Thanks always for your prayers and support.

Extension Training Expands through the Summer



We received a report that one of our college extension leaders Jeannie was able to take the teaching she has received at the TW Quarter Circle Ranch Ministries and apply it to her camp ministry this summer. She was a counselor for the Camp on Wheels team, where she was able to counsel and share the gospel with many young people. When they finished up one of their horse camps in Arizona, the camp leader talked to her about coming back when they have their horsemanship camp up and running and being one of their wrangler/counselors. Jeannie is one of our regular instructors now at the ranch. This is a picture of her last year as she tried out one of our mule training student's mount. She fell in love with Sugar.

Grandkids

As we mentioned in our last prayer letter, we ended the month of June with our horse show/gymkhana, in which our daughter Sara and three grandkids participated. It was a thrilling time, but it didn't stop there.

The next week we took a trail ride to the Chattooga Wilderness in Walhalla. We were also joined by Grace Hargis. It proved to be quite a challenging ride for all, but, oh, so beautiful. We didn't know it at the time, but Grace had fractured a bone in her foot (not horse related), so going down the steep inclines was particularly difficult. Please pray for her foot to heal, so she can be back riding normally.



We always seem to have opportunities to meet new people and share our tracts with them along the way.

Then the following week, we went to Dupont State Forrest for another trail ride. We had an amazing time with our family.

We did intersperse riding with fun times learning about classical and biblical music and rocks. Anna and Antone also attended Faith Baptist Vacation Bible School. We are also very thankful for Jim Hargis who gave his time to Isaac in honing his skills in art.



God's Provision

We are so very thankful for how God has provided help at our Travelers Rest place by sending two young ladies with farm experience, who have been taking out weeds, unwanted bushes, and trees. They have also been clearing weeds in our horse pasture fence line. We can't tell you the scope of what a blessing that has been! Have you ever told yourself it's too good to be true? Well, in this case it is too good, but it has proven to be true! Sometimes the load of the ministry seems too much, but then the Lord sends the cavalry to the rescue. They wish to remain anonymous, but we feel that the Lord has sent them and will reward their efforts.

Visitors from IN

Troy and Marilyn with their girls stopped by and visited the ranch. They had seen our presentation in their home church in Indiana and are friends with the Guarisco family there. It was a joy to show them around. If you are ever in the area, please stop in.

Netcasters

Curt is helping with Faith Baptist's Netcasters soulwinning class and visitation. It is a thirteen week program, teaching how to share the gospel with others. It's a tremendous program. He does that on Tuesday evenings. It will continue until November. Marietta, our head wrangler, is also attending. Curt leads one of the teams that goes out knocking on doors each week to present the gospel and to address any spiritual needs in our community. He is still teaching the 70+ Sunday School class and occasionally is the main teacher for the Wednesday night Sunday school teachers' meeting.

Cemetery

The cemetery clean up is progressing. The dedication ceremony will be Saturday, Oct. 3 at 11:00 am. If you can attend, please come. It should have good coverage as the different historical organizations will be there, plus the news media. We are very thankful for all that JB and the volunteers have done. We are hoping that we can pull time away from the ranch and horses to get our place presentable as well. We have



given out numerous tracts and witnessed to those who come. As a result JB has been attending church with us occasionally. We are hoping his health will allow him to come more often.

Counseling

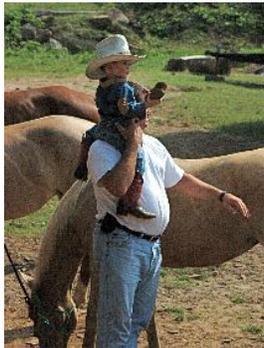
We have had several new opportunities to counsel with people. We always count it a privilege as part of the ministry. Please continue to pray for us to always be available. We have a missionary in Germany who is looking for some materials for us to share with our German friends here as well.

Pastor Visits Ranch

Pastor Ron Gaitlin and his daughter Joy took a trail ride at the Double S Ranch with us. We are looking forward to presenting our ministry in his church in the spring. Our best advertising is word of mouth and at this point that's all we can afford. Continue to pray and remember that anytime someone comes to ride, it supports the ministry. At this point in the economy, we are down 50% with our students; however, we are picking up some new ones. We especially need riders on Saturdays when we have most of our help from our college extension wranglers. Even though our numbers are down, we have had an increase in ministry opportunities. Some of our wranglers are working on our Levels program of horsemanship, which includes the gospel and Scripture verses for them to memorize as well as work on their riding skills.



Kids from Florida



We had our kids Nick & Susan and four grandchildren come up from Florida to spend five and a half days with us. We crammed in a mini horsemanship camp day, Dupont Trail ride, playing with the kittens, cooking, church, and lots of fellowship. We are very thankful for the wrangler volunteers who came and helped us. We consider all our kids and grandkids to be a special ministry in itself. We trust that we will have at least some impact on the next generation.



Antique Saddle Retired

After 48 years of faithful service the saddle that I received as a Christmas gift in 1961, has had to be retired. My demonstration horse Willow had it on and was tied to a tie ring at the trailer. She managed to pull it to the point where she stepped over it, got it wrapped up in her front legs, and she flipped out literally. She went over backwards, kicked up, so she was suspended in air and came down flat on the saddle. Thankfully she was not injured, just the air knocked out. At first we thought we could pound the horn back in place because the tree was not broken, but finally realized that the cantle and pommel were out of adjustment too. I was going to retire it as soon as I could afford to replace it. It now resides in our Montana room at our place in Travelers Rest.

God's Protection

One day while Curt was unhooking our gooseneck trailer, he misjudged the height of the underneath beams, and hit his head, peeling back a nickel size three corned tear. It was not serious,

but needed stitches, so we left the horsemanship lessons in the hands of our wranglers, and Bev drove him to Asheville, NC to the VA emergency. Do accidents always happen after clinic hours? Curt commented, "I thought the trailer was higher, and it only cost me five stitches in my scalp. Thank the Lord for the VA hospital in Asheville."

As we traveled the 50 miles to the Veterans Hospital, we wondered if God had a divine appointment for us. Sure enough! We settled down in a corner of the waiting room and took out our books to read. An elderly gentleman across from us commented that I was reading the "Good Book," the Bible. Curt asked him if he read the Bible, and he said not as often as he should. Curt began asking him questions; meanwhile his wife came back and joined in the conversation.

It was a divine appointment. They were trusting in their water baptism and good works, so we went through the gospel. Curt shared with them that Christ alone saves us from our sin; not baptism, not good works, not anything we do. She accepted the fact that Christ's death was for all her sins, and that water baptism was the first step of obedience after receiving forgiveness of sin and salvation. When it was time for them to leave, Bev helped them find their car, gave them our tract, and bid them good bye. Please pray for the Phillips. Mr. Phillips had served in WWII as a gunner on the B24 Bomber. He flew 50 missions.

Mr. Phillips was hard of hearing, so Curt had to speak loudly. After they left one of the girls behind the counter came over and thanked Curt for sharing the gospel so clearly. He realized he had been speaking loud enough for everyone in the waiting room to hear. We were able to share our tracts with both ladies there. Pray that the message will reach those who were listening in the waiting room. It was worth the stitches.

When we then saw the doctor, we found out that he was a believer. As he asked us questions about our horsemanship ministry, he commented that his brother-in-law runs a horsemanship ministry in the state of Oregon, but he couldn't remember the name. He was amazed when Curt asked him if it was a particular work, as we had researched their apprenticeship program on the internet. He was taken back that Curt knew of it. It opened up a good avenue of discussion with him and is assistant.

We marvel at the goodness of God! Occasionally on a bull rider's pickup you will see the bumper sticker, "Ride bulls; meet nurses." It has a deeper meaning for a soulwinner.

Testimony

One of our parents who has a child with physical needs told us the other day that our riding program has done wonders for their daughter's confidence. They see it seeping into other areas of her life to the point where she is stepping outside of herself and being more adventuresome and confident.

We attribute this change directly to one particular college extension student, who took this girl under her wing, treated her like everyone else, loved her, and especially joked around with her and played with her until she seemed to fill with strength and became confidently happy at the ranch. Thank you Emily!



Seasoned Saints

What a tremendous evening! We were supposed to minister to them, but we came away greatly encouraged. Curt presented our ministry after we enjoyed a delicious meal and great entertainment. This is a fun group who love the Lord.



Seasoned Saints Round Pen-Golden Corral

Not only did the Seasoned Saints have Curt present our ministry at their western banquet, but they also had us do our round pen demonstration on the ball field at Faith Baptist that next Saturday at 8:00 in the morning. We had a great group of Seasoned Saints as well as children and all ages in between that they had invited. Curt gave the gospel as well as a challenge to "trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding." as he explained the horse's relationship with its owner and our relationship with our God. The Seasoned Saints treated us afterwards to breakfast at the Golden Corral. We had the opportunity to hand out tracts and prayer cards, and witness to one of the guests over breakfast.



Western Experience-Missionaries to Spain

We had the privilege of teaching some missionary kids to Spain how to be around horses. We had some teachable moments as the horses lend themselves to marvelous object lessons. The kids progressed to the point where we were able to go out on the trails at the ranch. Some even got to the place that they were loping confidently. One went home and told their mom that "they were all Christians" at the ranch. We thank the Lord for Kathy Bell, their grandmother for bringing them out and supporting the ministry.



Blessings:

Gifts large and small coming in; showing us God's continued provision

Seasoned Saints love offering- came at such a needy time

Portable Round Pen wire reel donated

Recently, one of the Double S Ranch horses (Tag) that we use in the ministry was at the animal hospital with colic, which is life threatening. He has now recovered. Praise the Lord!

Prayer Requests:

Continued safety for us, wranglers, and riders

Health and safety from injury for our horses

Tax Exemption status

Patience as we wait

Thank you for your prayers.

Curt & Bev Doherty

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Training horses and riders

The Montana Connection

www.twquartercircleranchministries.org

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He himself. And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

*Revelation 19:11-14
We win!*