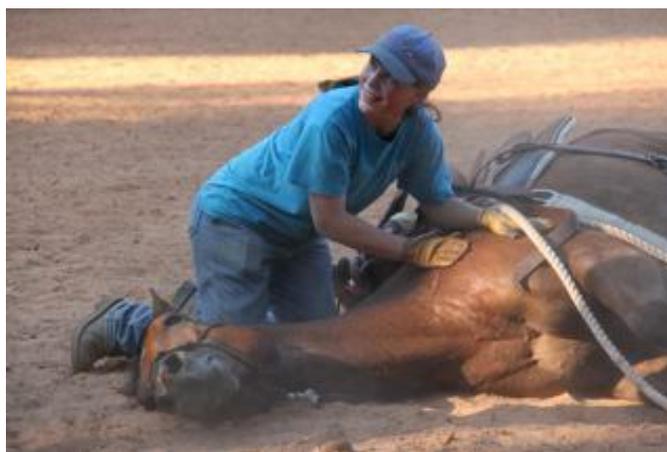


TW Quarter Circle Ranch Ministries June/July 2010 Prayer Letter

This has been a busy summer, but very rewarding. Our summer Intern Caleb has been a tremendous blessing. He stayed the summer, trusting the Lord, as a volunteer. He's a very hard worker, and the Lord has given him lots of odd jobs over and above his duties at the ranch to earn money for his schooling. So far he has the first semester paid through anonymous donations, generous people, and hard work. It was a pretty crazy schedule in June with working camp, plus all the day jobs, but the Lord gave grace. Our theme for this year is Proverbs 3:5-6: *Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.* Below you will see that theme in the highlights through our relationship with the horses and people.

No, there is nothing wrong with Sundance, we just asked him to trust us to lay him down and wait.



June Horsemanship Camps

Our camp numbers were down this year, but the ministry opportunities abounded. We did have campers from as far away as Montana, Indiana, and Alabama. We had an increase in the number of people wanting lessons, so we did double duty and fit them around our camp schedule. It worked out well, so that when the campers were in the chapel or class, we did lessons. You can see from the pictures the tremendous time we had with special needs riding with our daughter Sara and friend Becky Vaughn. Our demonstration horse Willow is one of our more spirited and flighty horses, but when it came to responding to Becky, she was amazing! What a thrill to be a part of that special bond.



Not only does the Lord give special care from the horses, but our ranch dogs as well. That special connection is a sight to behold. Rosey is a rescue dog who does not trust people. It usually takes a long time to win her, but not so with Sara and Becky. Rosey would seek them out readily. That was an answer to prayer!



As a result of our camps, we had two that professed that they were now trusting Christ as their Saviour, we were able to disciple one who had come to know the Lord last year through camp, and we had one who testified that she had trusted the Lord a couple of years ago after one of our horse show challenges.

Girl Scouts

One of the camp days, we scheduled a girls' scout troop to join the campers as Caleb gave a demonstration on trimming a horse's hoof, Curt and I did the Nature of the Horse and Trust demonstration giving the gospel, and then we took the scouts out on a trail ride while the campers went to chapel. We ended by answering questions and giving out our tract to about fifteen.



Southside Western Experience



We had a special group of about 50 from the Southside Christian Day Camp group. We again did a special Nature of the Horse demonstration with Willow, and Curt giving a gospel presentation and demonstration about cowboy gear, relating it to our armour from Ephesians 6. Many of the students had never seen a horse up close. They were able to pet and then ask questions about each horse. They left with our fliers and tracts in hand.

Website Brings Results

Someone googled for trail rides early in June. Deb contacted us and scheduled herself and two nieces to do a trail ride at the ranch while they were in South Carolina visiting. She is from Illinois and her nieces are from Florida. Her mother wrote later to one of our wranglers:

Hi Shannah,

I thought you might like to relay our thanks to the young male wrangler [Caleb], who talked to Jack while the rest of you were out riding on the trail.

Deb was so excited when they arrived home Friday night and it was only partially about the horses, but about the witness, testimony, and sweetness of everyone at the ranch. Deb did say the horses have been wonderfully trained, but she mainly spoke of how "refreshing it was to be around people who freely talked about the Lord." Tell everyone to keep up the spiritual work. They may not hear of how the Lord is using their witness, but HE is using it.

*Thanks,
Jeanette*



Dupont Trail Ride

Our Adult Camp ended with a trail ride in the North Carolina mountains. One of our new converts JB was able to do the week of camp with us in spite of his liver condition from Agent Orange cancer. The highlight to him is the trail rides. JB started out being a ranch hand during the month of June for camp as well. He is praying that his health will allow him to continue to help out at the ranch during the year.





Grace Hargis not only was a camper this year, but also became a wrangler in training, helping with every week of camp. She has to cut back some when her duties at the university start back, but will continue to develop her skills as a wrangler and rider during the year.

Carolina Horse Show Association Shows

This summer, we also attended two CHSA horse shows. Our TWQC riding team did a tremendous job coming home with lots of ribbons and with the high point trophies in speed events and the western division classes at both shows. We made new friends and passed out lots of tracts. Caleb was invited to pray before each show.



Marietta Parrott on Sundance
High Point Western Division
Shannah Steel on Rosebud
High Point Speed Events

Caleb Downs on Two Dot
High Point Speed Events
Shannah Steel on Rosebud
High Point Western Division



TWQC Horse Show/Gymkhana

We ended the month of June with our horse show, showing the skills learned at camp. We also had some others in the community come and participate. Curt gave the mid-show challenge; we were able to talk with many families.



Awards:

Camper of the Year – Kathleen Roskam
Head Wrangler – Marietta Parrott
2010 Camper of the Year – Becky Vaughn
Most Improved – JB & Mattie McConnell
Ranch Ramrod – Caleb Downs
Ranch Foreman – Glorianna Parrott



High Point Winners:

1D-Marietta Parrott on Sundance
4D – Silas Vaughn on Sequoyah
2D – Molly McConnell on Miss MT
3D – Antone Gaurisco on Chinook
Adult D – Gail Lewis on Cheyenne

Family

We had the privilege of having our family down again this year. The kids are getting to the place where they are really a big help. We had some great family times, especially late at night with everyone gathered around the Island in the kitchen preparing supper after a day of work and camp. It was nice to hear, "I just love being with family!"



Hilton Head

We had been praying for some activities that we could share with our grandkids, but without expense. The Lord answered that prayer when our friends Greg and Lynette offered us their condo for four days at Hilton Head. What a time for the kids! We are not much for beach going, but strolling and fellowshipping was grand. We spent Wednesday evening at a little Baptist church there and were amazed at the small world we have. Brit was there, whose house we had held Netcaster Training all last year in Greenville. We had no idea she was spending the summer there helping in the church. Another family knew Sara from Indiana, and also our summer intern Caleb. It was a sweet time.



Visitors While We Were Gone

The Lockes from New Jersey and their family from Greenville came out to the ranch when we were in Hilton Head. We are so thankful for the great volunteers that we have. We heard reports that their time here was great. Thank you, Wranglers and Ranch Hands.

Tracking Steers at Truman's

We had set up a time to go work steers at our farrier's place in W. Union for our grandson Antone's birthday. That was a great time with the kids and Caleb, learning to work cows and getting their horses to follow. Only one horse had had experience doing that before. By the time we were finished, we had made arrangements for Caleb to spend three days a week for the next month there riding colts and learning Truman's training techniques. Needless to say, Caleb has gotten in some long riding hours. What a wonderful opportunity! Truman and Dale even let him stay at their house and feed him, so he doesn't have to drive back and forth. On Wednesdays Caleb goes to a little church in Pickens. Caleb even filled in to help out with their vacation Bible school. One never knows the adventures that the Lord has in store when walking by faith.



Trip to Indiana

It worked out for Caleb to take his van home to Indiana to take care of some business and visit his family. He hadn't been home since Christmas. He dropped off Sara, grandkids, and Curt on his way. They spent a few days there; then Caleb came back through, picking up Curt and coming back. The minute he came back, the Lord put him to work at the ranch.

Snyder's Birthday Party

We had quite a group at the Snyder's grandson's birthday party. We are thankful for all that the Snyders at the Double S Ranch do for the ministry!

We are also thankful for those who give of their time and energy to walk horses around the arena for the ministry.



Chattooga Wilderness

Before people started going in different directions, I took our lead wranglers minus a few that couldn't go, and headed for the Chattooga Wilderness. It was quite a ride going five hours with a short break for lunch. It is incredible the training on inexperienced young horses that can be accomplished. We loped most of the way, trotted, and crossed the river in several places. Most agreed it was one of the best rides ever. It's a joy to give the horses different experiences and to see their eagerness to go with perked ears, never tiring to respond.



Special needs student **Alexis**
(see note on next page)

Correspondence

Everyone Really Does Want to Be a Cowboy!

*I have an English student who might be interested in coming out to the ranch. . . . he's from Brazil. I've been teaching him ESL. On Friday we were doing a vocabulary lesson on things in the country, and I was trying to explain the terms farm and ranch. He asked "Where can you see a cowboy around here?" I almost laughed! But I told him about the ranch and said I would try to help schedule something.
~Janna (former extension leader; now married)*

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*Special needs student Alexis learning how to be around horses, clean saddles, and ride...*

Hi, It's me Alexis.

I just wanted to say thank you for everything. I've enjoyed it . . . It's been fun meeting new people. They are all so nice. And it's been a pleasure meeting you. I've loved riding Pretty and Chinook, although Pretty will remain my favorite. She's the best to me :) It's been fun helping and getting the saddles all clean. I love to see them shine. So, thank you for accepting me [as a ranch hand] and yes you will be seeing me later. . . So thank you for letting me participate and I have enjoyed it all. May the Lord bless you and everything you do. :)

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Thank you for the opportunity for Silas and me to ride horses and attend horsemanship camp. We had a great time and learned several new skills! It is a unique ministry as it is both fun and evangelistic. Thank you for your generosity!

*Sincerely,
Becky and Silas*

~~~~~

Dear Curt & Bev,

The kids had a wonderful time. Thank you! Please give our thanks to all the Wranglers as well. They did a great job and had a real impact on all of us. Keep up the great ministry. I'll be putting a link on my website as soon as I can.

PV

Heb. 6:10

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Hello Miss Bev and Mr. Curt,

From the updates we hear from Caleb, you are all having a very busy summer! We are thankful to hear you are having new students continuing to come. One more student, one more opportunity for the Lord! The Lord has and is continuing to do a mighty work through the TW Quarter Circle Ranch ministries. Your monthly newsletters have been a joy to read. We are able to put more faces with names. Having the ability to see how the ministry works within the local community is almost like being there. Our prayers are with you all daily, many times a day.

Just on a personal note we just want to again say thank you for being an anchor and home base while he is ministering with you. Caleb's complete faith in the LORD has caused our faith to strengthen. To hear

how God is providing for his needs physically and spiritually makes our hearts overflow with thanksgiving. All the families within the ranch ministry and his church family at Faith have been a huge blessing for Caleb, and for us as well.

May our wonderful Lord continue to supply your daily strength: spiritually, emotionally, and physically. May He bring in the finances to continue the outreach in the communities you are serving in and for any vet needs. May each day bring all of us closer to our Lighthouse, so we will be able to shine for Him in a world that is without His light and understanding.

Love and Prayers,

Shirley (mother)

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### **Excerpt from our summer intern's prayer letter**

Hello Friends!

It has been a busy few weeks since I gave my last update. The Lord has once again provided my daily needs beyond what I could have asked. I had the opportunity to go home and see my family a few days last week and it was great to spend time and share with each other what the Lord has been doing in our lives. I had the opportunity to preach at my church last Wednesday night, and I also gave an update on how the ranch is doing. This trip home, the Lord blessed in amazing ways financially.

I have really been taken back with some of the things I have been learning in the Word. I read through Leviticus a little while back, and to see all that the children of Israel had to do and sacrifice for their sins made me stop and think, "Do I really see my sin as bad as God sees it?" Pray that I will always keep in mind the severity of my sin and the price that was paid for it. The Lord has also been teaching me a lot about obedience and humility. It is easy to get so wrapped up in serving, that I sometimes forget what my actual purpose is here. So if you could pray that my mindset will be to honor God, and in all things He might get the glory.

Please pray that I will patient and content with the plan God has for my life. Thank you for your prayers; it is those persistent prayers that keep me going each day.

Thanks again,

Caleb

Keep serving Him, and fight the good fight!

II Timothy 4:7

Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

### **Continuing Needs and Answers**

We have had several ask us about our needs. We have been hesitant to share, as we are living by faith and asking the Lord to supply, but here are a few of the things you could be praying about:

- **Praise the Lord! Our home church has officially taken us on for monthly support. Pray that others will do the same.**
- The Lord's will about the two other lesson sites. We've been offered, but no movement as of yet.
- Items to be sold to help supplement our income.

- Good horse hay both for the Double S Ranch and for our place in Travelers Rest.
- Money to shoe our horses, especially for the trail rides. **The Lord has supplied through the summer.**
- Sponsor for horse show ribbons and t-shirts. **We have someone who will be doing signs and banners for us.**
- Money for horse medications
- Equipment to be able to float the horses' teeth.
- Lime, fertilizer, and grass seed for our pasture.
- Paint for the storage barn
- Home site-yard work; burn pile; pasture
- Canister vacuum for wood floors - **Curt ordered a part for our vacuum and replaced it, but then still had to take it to the shop because it did not work. To our surprise it only cost \$20 to get it back running! What a blessing not to have to use the shop vac anymore!**
- Steering box fixed on our diesel pickup, We have someone who has volunteered to fix it but we need the money for the parts, insurance, and tags
- Donated dump truck plates and insurance
- Fertilizer and seed spreader (3-point hitch)
- Drag harrow
- Time and co-laborers to do the work that needs to be done. **We've had some great help this summer. Praying for a good crew of college extension people for the school year.**

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All for the glory of God,

Curt & Bev

TW Quarter Circle Ranch Ministries

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Training horses and riders

The Montana Connection

www.twquartercircleranchministries.org

Proverbs 3:5 & 6 ~ Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.