

## TW Quarter Circle Ranch Ministries December 2010-April 2011 Prayer Letter

Greetings from the TW Quarter Circle Ranch! We have had a busy winter, and spring is almost past already. Let's get caught up.

### December 2010

We ended 2010 with an increase in our activities rather than the decline the economy might have predicted. December is usually a little bleak with it being a busy month for people, plus the weather keeps some away. Not this year! Our students increased, and we had some birthday parties and Nature of the Horse demonstrations.



### Presentation of Saddles

At Christmas, many of the riders and their families, as well as many friends from Faith Baptist Church in Taylors, got together and donated funds so two of our most faithful volunteers could receive the blessing of new saddles. These girls feed horses every day, and ride every day the ranch is operating. Often, they take whatever ragged saddle is left after the riders are outfitted. Marietta and Glorianna have been so faithful over the last nine years, and we are so grateful to them for their faithful service to the Lord, and the great job of training and mentoring they do with our riders. A great group showed up to share the fun at the barn. Sorry for those of you who couldn't make it. I think the expression on their faces tell it all.

Thanks to all the wonderful people who donated, so we could give Marietta and Glorianna saddles. They were able to go online and design their saddles, which arrived in February.



*Wow, what a humbling gift! The saddle is so pretty, comfortable, and very functional. It is definitely a gift that will last a lifetime. Words cannot express my thankfulness to everyone for thinking of me in this wonderful way! Thank you! ~Glorianna*

*Thank you so much for contributing to my getting a saddle! Getting such a good, beautiful saddle is an answer to prayer, and a dream come true! It is such a blessing to have my own saddle! Thank you! ~Marietta*

## **New Website Creates Results**

We have been in a whirlwind of activity since December. Thanks to our new website, we are getting calls daily. This has sparked a flurry of new riders for trail rides and lessons, including several new special needs riders. We are so thankful for the families that have come to the ranch. If you have not already, go to our Facebook search window and type in TW Quarter Circle Ranch Ministries and "like" us. That's another way we keep in contact with people, plus we post activity pictures. We are told it's important to have lots of friends. :)

## **Annual Meetings**

In February we had our annual board meeting, and it went well. We are so thankful for our board members. We still have much to do to get things in order, but Curt has been working diligently every available minute. We also had a Leadership planning meeting. It's good to have fresh ideas and perspectives.

## **Spring Circuit of Ranch Horse Shows**

We had a wonderful Spring Circuit with our horse shows/gymkhanas at the ranch. We saw more riders participating than we have in the past two years, since the economy tanked. Our audience numbers have been way up from any years in the past. We probably averaged between 75-80 people each show with many new visitors. Curt preached a gospel message each time; and we had people respond, even personally after the messages.



We ended our show season with our Nature of the Horse Demonstration. Willow, as always, put on quite a show. The object lesson of the horse rebelling and going her own way, causing her to kick out, shake her head, stomp in rebellion, and sometimes throw a tantrum, seems to really reach people. Curt points out the correlation between horse and man, and man and his Creator. We so many times rebel against a holy God causing us to be miserable. Only when the horse submits to his master and man submits to His God is there real peace and joy.

## **Local Show Opportunities**

We are also going to more local horse shows. This year we are participating in a show that we travel to monthly. We have seven riders who have nominated their horse for high point at the end of the year. Our first show was canceled due to tornado warnings, but we will do a make up at the end of May. The Lord has graciously spared us with all the inclement weather. We pray for those who were hit so hard, especially those who had animals and lives destroyed.

## Annual Trail Rides

Participation on our trail rides to the mountains has been wonderful. This last one to DuPont State Forest we had ten riders, causing us to take two pick ups and trailers. They were memorable rides!

## Matters for Prayer

We have not been without our troubles. We had someone give us a very bad review on our Google page, but when our riders, parents, and grandparents heard of it, they more than made up for it. Their comments blessed us so much that it definitely backed fired on the person who wrote to do us harm. We don't know if it was the same person who turned the ranch in for animal neglect; but again, the animal control official, who came out, said there was absolutely nothing wrong with our place and that the animals looked very good. We would really appreciate your prayers of protection.



## Volunteers

Opportunities of discipleship with our volunteers and even those who are turned down to come out and help at the ranch, continues. Because horses are such a draw for people, we have many, who want to volunteer for free riding, that we cannot accommodate. Please pray that others who want to be wrangler/counselors will understand that we have very high standards for accepting people to work with our students. We want to be gracious, but firm that it is very important that wranglers have a high level of personal separation. We are dealing with matters of eternity, not just fun with horses.

## Ministry Opportunities

We also have had opportunity to minister with our friends from church, who were helping someone with some serious personal problems. It came up that the person loves horses and wanted advice about a problem horse at home. After working with one of our horses and going out on the trails, Curt was able to very naturally go into the gospel. We are praying that those object lessons will penetrate the heart. Later in March, we had the privilege to give advice to one of our faithful wranglers. She was tutoring a very volatile special needs child. We were invited into the home and made some suggestions to the mom; but more importantly, we were able to witness to the mom.

March blew in with a torrent of activities. Curt and I had our way paid to attend The Wild's Youth Workers Conference. What a blessing! We came away with new zeal to serve the Lord by serving others and teaching our volunteers to do the same. We are now reading Biblical Leadership by Ken Collier and Matt Williams.

## Wrangler Appreciation Gymkhana and Lunch

What fun our students and families had putting on our Wrangler Appreciation Gymkhana. Despite the rain, they served the wranglers and ranch hands with enthusiasm, making it a very special day.





### Society Workday

Then the next Saturday we had a college society come out both to our home place and the ranch. The Lord blessed with many things being accomplished that we just haven't had the time to do. Curt started the day with a challenge, and we ended with The Nature of the Horse demonstration and the guys riding.



### Other Activities

We have had several of our riders attend non-ranch activities. It was a privilege when one of our riders came with me to the Ladies' Conference at Faith Baptist. Eight of us from the ranch attended the Milltown Pride premier showing at Bob Jones. The next week, we were blessed to have several riders and friends join us for the annual Living Gallery presentation for Easter.

### Ranch Paws

The Ranch Paws have become a vital part of our ministry for birthday parties and special occasions at the ranch. They sing (howl) on cue for the special person. They seem to be very sensitive to our special needs people and older riders. Rosey especially will come to them willingly to love on them. She's very leery of folks, but has a sense for people with disabilities.



Please pray that Rosey and Roundup will be obedient by not pulling on the horse's tails and not reacting negatively to people. Their bred instincts are to be protective and to "work the animals."

### **Soul Winning Training**

Curt continues teaching the Netcasters soul winning program, and this year Faith Baptist Church of Taylors provided a meeting room for the classwork. This semester there have been seven students attending both from the ranch and from our church. Our church has an organized visitation program that the Netcasters attend. Three ladies have recently come to know the Lord. Two of the families are attending Sunday school and church faithfully. We are thankful for our church. Our mission goal is to support the local church in whatever way we can.

### **Special Party**

We ended the month by having our daughter Sara's 40th birthday party. It was a tremendous encouragement to her. She has really had some very hard trials lately. She was showered with love and encouragement from friends. The ranch has been an important part of her of her life over the years. She volunteers her time for the ranch as our Special Needs Advisor, plus she makes all of our special award ribbons (one handed, due to her disability)



### **Continuing Needs and Answers**

We are living by faith and asking the Lord to supply. Here are a few things you could be praying about and praising the Lord:

- **Our camp enrollment is up 99% over last year.** We have wonderful quality wranglers and ranch hands, but we need more help!
- The Lord's will about property for our ministry to grow. We are bursting at the seams.
- Scholarship money for campers in need. **We have had one given, but still need another \$300.**
- Volunteer Grounds Keeper: lawn, pastures, maintenance
- Items to be sold to help supplement our income. **We have someone who is listing them for us.**
- Good horse hay for our place in Travelers Rest. **The Lord provided abundantly last year,** but we are now in need of restocking.
- Sponsor for horse show ribbons and t-shirts. **Our camp t-shirts have been donated. Thanks to our sponsors and our Supplies Wrangler's diligence!**
- Money for horse medications. **The Lord is providing our daily needs.**
- 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. **Praise the Lord for those who have come out.** It's a never-ending project, however.
- **Steering box fixed on our diesel pickup- It has been fixed, just in time for our Easter Trail ride. It was greatly needed. Praise the Lord!**
- Fertilizer and seed spreader (3-point hitch)

- Drag harrow
- **Time and co-laborers to do the work that needs to be done. The Lord continues to provide.** Continue to pray for our summer's wranglers & ranch hands. **So far the Lord has provided some quality people willing to work with us.** We just need more, especially guys. :)

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*Curt giving the devotional at a gymkhana*



*Ribbon winners at the Spring Show Circuit*



*A birthday party heading out on the trail*



*Trail riding at our Fountain Inn facility*



*Lunch during a trail ride at DuPont State Forest*



*Ready to ride*

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.twqc.org](http://www.twqc.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.*