

THE SCOOP

Whispering Hope Ranch Ministries

JUST READ THE INSTRUCTIONS

Years back we would water our horses at the Ranch with water troughs. This way of keeping them supplied with fresh water worked fairly well in the summer, but when winter was upon us it became rather challenging. We would have to break the ice and shovel it out of the water troughs. By spring we had a huge pile of ice! Using a hammer, hatchet, and shovel was a tough way to keep fresh water available.

As time went on we decided to invest in some automatic waterers. The advertisement said, "NO freeze ups! Easy clean - Fresh water without the hassle." At the start of that first winter things went really well. Then it got extremely cold, and froze up. We had to get extension cords, and a heat gun to thaw it out. What a disappointment! The next four winters it only got worse. Staff spent many early morning hours in 20 to 30 below zero temps thawing the automatic waterers out.

This past winter I was told by Willy, that the water heater had stopped working all together. When I went to see what could be done, I found that the thermostat had broken, and some of the insulation had melted from use of the heat gun. I called the company to order new parts and through my conversation with the rep was given some advice to help fix the original freeze up problem. As I hung up the phone I realized I had made a huge mistake. I hadn't read and followed all of the instructions that came with the waterer. After installing the new parts and applying the newly learned instructions we have not had a freeze up since!

Years of trouble, many cold hours spent thawing the waterer, winters of stressing over

horses having fresh water could have been avoided.

Through this, God has shown me that the same thing happens when we ignore His instruction manual, the Bible. When we do things our own way we end up with years of misery, pain, trouble, and stress. His instructions are clear on how to live. Please consider taking a closer look with me at God's instructions to us. Lets commit to reading the Bible everyday and with Christ's help do what it says to truly live a blessed life.

Psalm 119:105 "Your word is lamp for my feet and a light on my path."

Mr. Matt

UPCOMING EVENTS:

★ **April 18 and May 16** - Teen Riders
Ages 13-17 Saturday 9:00 - 12:00

★ **April 18 and May 16** - Hope Riders
Ages 9-12 - Saturday 1:00 - 3:00

★ **April 11 and 18** - 8:00 A.M. Saturday Ranch Workdays - Lunch provided

★ **Summer Camps** - starting in June. See full schedule on reverse or check the website for camp info.



2020 CAMP SCHEDULE

CAMP	DATES	AGES
SPUR Teen Girls	June 24-27	13-17
Day Camp 1	\$75	7-12
Girls Buckaroo	July 5-8	7-9
Girls Ranch 1	July 12-15	10-12
Day Camp 2	July 20	7-12
Girls Ranch 2	July 26-29	10-12
Adult Adventure Camp	Aug 1	18 and up
Girls Ranch 3	Aug 2-5	10-12
Day Camp 3	Aug 10	7-12

NEW THIS YEAR!

“Hey, all you adults out there...” How many times have you sat in the bleachers to watch the kids having all the fun on horses? What if you could come to horse camp? Now you can! Check out the Adult Adventure Camp planned for this summer. We have a camp planned for you to come to the Ranch and experience all the hands-on-horse-time-fun we can squeeze into a day. Step away from everyday life and enjoy horseback riding, grooming and horse care, tasty meals cooked for you, and learning more about God’s beautiful creation and His boundless love.

Save the date!

Hoe down

WILLY’S WORLD

“Hey Y’all! Willy here.” I wanted to check in and see how everyone is doing this winter. Things at the Ranch are going great. However, I *am* missing summer. I miss the long, warm, sunny days; perfect for riding. I miss the campers, and everyone else who visits the Ranch in the summer. Even though its not as busy at the Ranch now, as it is in the summer, and we get held back by unpredictable weather, the winter still has some really fun things to do. One of my personal favorites is to go bareback riding on my horse Annabelle. When the snow is fluffy, the sun is out and the weather is just right, Annabelle and I love to go trotting through the snow. Because of Annabelle’s fluffy coat and wide build, it feels like I am riding on a cloud with her long, beautiful mane flowing in the wind. Riding horses is always fun, but bareback riding is a completely different experiences. If you haven’t had a chance to go bareback riding yet, there’s a possibility you could try it at your next summer camp. (Check out our 2020 Summer schedule!) No matter the weather, and even in the harsh cold, snowy days we can still see God’s blessings all around. Psalm 118:24 says, “This is the day that the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it!”

- Willy (and Annabelle)



A huge **thanks** to everyone who helps keep the Ranch going through funding and prayers!

ARENA UPDATE

Guess what!?! The arena project is so close to being completed that we were able to use it for our Hope Riders events.

GOT PHOTOS?

Have any great photos taken at the Ranch this past summer or a previous year that you’d be willing to share? Sadly, we recently lost most of our photos from an external hard drive. We’d love it if you’d post some to the Ranch Facebook page, or email them to us. We love including pictures of kids having fun on horses for people to see when they look at our newsletters, websites, and posts.

