

Fall
2011

Rainbow Ranch Ranch Hand News

Hi everyone, and welcome to the eleventh edition of Ranch Hand News. I hope you enjoy reading it, as much as we enjoy putting it together. And as always, we welcome your input.

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Snotober!! - this is just
WRONG



Yes, you are reading it right. 12 1/2 inches of snow before Halloween! And not just snow; downed and damaged trees, power outages that lasted over a week in some areas.



Beautiful, but....



damaging.

We had a few fences to fix and a bunch of trees that lost many large limbs. All in all, we were luckier than some.



But most importantly, all the critters were safe in the barn throughout the storm. Just in case Mother Nature is not done with the white stuff this winter, please remember to recommend our plowing service to anyone you know.

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That was then...



This is now....

We've recognized the ticking time bomb for years now—the horse world's reliance on the baby boomers.

Our generation, born between 1946 and 1964, has powered the equine industry for decades—ever since our group first fell in love with horses watching *Gunsmoke*, *Bonanza*, and the other Westerns that dominated television programming in the '50s and '60s.

Though many of us are still active with horses today, we won't be forever. Right now the oldest boomers are in their mid-60s, and trends indicate most people stop riding between the ages of 55 and 65. So, forward-thinking horsemen have been worrying about who will fill our boots once the boomers are gone.

In fact, "Who'll Fill Our Boots" was the title of a November '02 *Trendwatch* report in *Horse & Rider* magazine. In it, the writer predicted that many factors—social, cultural, and economic—would make it challenging to draw enough youngsters into the fold to make up for the loss of the boomer brigade. Parents should do whatever they can to encourage youngsters to get involved with horses as early as possible.



A Helping Hand

"It's a start"

For years Floyd has helped keep the equipment here at RR running. Unfortunately, a recent fire completely destroyed Floyd's garage, and he lost all the tools he had collected over the last 30 years. When Marilyn Schwartz heard of Floyd's misfortune, she decided Xmas would come a little early this year for Floyd, and provided him with a number of hand and power tools that will get him started recovering from his loss.

Lino Update

Lino's training program is completed. Now Tom and his crew are applying that training in everyday life on a horse & cattle farm. This is where it all comes together, and it certainly seems to me like that is what is happening. It is up to me to practice with him, in hopes of he and I becoming a team. I had planned on bringing him home at the end of Oct, but he will stay for a while longer; and I must make the time to ride him as much as possible before the weather gets too bad.

I became aware of a problem with the video link in the last issue. I have re-uploaded & have a new link below. So turn up your speakers, sit back, and be sure to watch in full screen mode. Click on the link below to view "A Brother's Journey"
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VOUVcP5TxfU>

One of RR's own has started:



Earthworms Plus sells three kinds of earthworms. What are earthworms good for? Bait, Castings, Compost, Education, Gardening, Poultry feed, Small pet food & Science projects.

To order, E mail Carmen at: earthwormsplus@yahoo.com. Or for more information, go to www.earthwormsplus.com.

Save \$5-\$7 when you pick up your merchandise. For steeper discounts, visit Earthworms Plus at the Sergeantsville Farmers Market on Saturdays, from 8:30- noon or the Hackettstown Farmers Market, on Mondays from 2- 7 pm.

Brandi & Canyon



Yes, Canyon has a new mom; Brandi. When her Aunt Sue offered Canyon to Brandi, she gleefully accepted, and it was love at first sight. Canyon originally coming to RR through a rescue program is turning out to be a sound and sensible mount. Brandi and Canyon spent the latter part of the summer getting to know each other, and now the couple have aspirations of entering the Equine Program at Centenary College in the fall of 2012. Please join me in wishing them well in their college career.

A Therapeutic Touch

A full service Massage Studio, right here on Rainbow Ranch. To schedule a human massage contact Marilu at 908-319-7381

We also are offering Equine massage for your horse or pony, either on RR, or at your barn. To schedule an equine massage contact Colleen at www.equinekneadsllc.com

Best Picture of the Quarter



Best Joke of the Quarter

A couple drove down a country road for several miles, not saying a word.. An earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither of them wanted to concede their position. As they passed a barnyard of mules, goats, and pigs, the husband asked sarcastically: "Relatives of yours?" "Yep," the wife replied, "in-laws."

Down the Road a Bit



- * Winter Blues
- * RR Xmas Party
- * Lino finally coming home??
- * Is it Spring Yet!
- * E mail us any stories, pix, or jokes you would like to share with the RHN readers.

Until next Time:

Happy Trails to you, and Yours.