

Summer
2010

Rainbow Ranch Ranch Hand News

Hi everyone, and welcome to the sixth 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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Tack Swap & Flea Mkt

Well the big tack sale and flea market wasn't so "Big" afterall! It was almost 100 degrees, and everyone must have been hiding in the air conditioning. We'll be having another one, but this time in the spring or the fall.

Rainbow Ranch Snowplowing

It won't be long now! Soon the cool nights of fall will give way to the nose nipping chill of winter, and the white stuff. Please remember to tell your family and friends that we will be offering this service again this winter, and if anyone signs up early, they get a discount.



MEET "BENNY"

Hi, My name is Benny, I'm about 12 years old, and can pull a cart, or give pony rides. I came to RR in May and was told my job was to help Lollipop and Petie with the pony ride operation. I was barely here two months, when they brought me to work the Pow Wow!



They should call it a pony nightmare! I was scared at first, with all the people, some of them looking like birds, drums beating, and loudspeakers. Then Rosie got on my back, and I gave her the longest pony ride in history. I was glad after while, because it kept my mind off all the excitement. After what seemed an eternity, I realized all the stuff going on was nothing to fear, and I settled down to the job at hand. None of us went home that night, but it was OK because I had my partners with me the whole time. The next morning we went back to work, but this time I wasn't scared at all. I heard Joe say; "well he's not Goldie, but it looks like he'll work out just fine". Since then, I've gone to a couple of house parties to give kids rides. I like this RR place. I hope to see you all real soon.

And now, the newest addition to the RR farmhouse, and certainly the smallest, is **Charlie**. He came to live at Rainbow Ranch on

May 22nd, at the ripe old age of six weeks old.



He was born in West Virginia, to an Amish family, who has his Mom and Dad. Lu met his one year old brother, a week earlier, on a visit to Michelle's, and just loved him. So his arrival at RR was a surprise for her from Michelle. Since he came to RR, he has gained a couple of pounds. And now at 4 months old, he weighs just 5.6 lbs. But don't let his size fool you. He can hold his own with the big dogs just fine and with Benson too! He loves to chew on, and romp with the other dogs. If he gets too out of hand, Spice keeps him in line. But he still gets plenty of play time in. Since he's small and cute he gets away with things the other dogs only dream about.



He went to the Powwow this year and had a great time. Here he is getting a pony ride from Benny. But with all the excitement, he had



to get some rest. He met a lot of new friends who all wanted to

take him home, but they had to walk away without him, because at

the end of the day, he's not going anywhere but home to RR.

This Year's Powwow

Powwow 2010 started out very, very WET! But this crew's spirits were not dampened one bit. And the sun did finally come out.



LtoR: Vinnie, Petie, Alexa, Lollipop, Rosey, Tiffany, Joe, Joyce, KB, Benny, and Marilu

We had our veteran handlers, along with a few rookies. This was Joyce's, KB's, and Benny's first Powwow. Benny did OK for his first time. He still has a way to go to fill Goldie's shoes, who was missed this year.



There was some down time to catch our breath for both handlers and the ponies. Also, an Indian artist did some painting on the ponies. It wasn't exactly a war party, but it was kind of fun to do.



Even Mike got in the ring to help out. Who, I must extend a very large "Thank You" for coming through with his help again this year.



Annie Takes a Blue



This year's costume class at the Sussex County Farm and Horse Show had an entry near and dear to our hearts. Annie, in a purple Tutu, with matching ribbons in her mane, and purple hearts here and there, walked away with 1st place in the "Most Beautiful" class on Tuesday evening of fair week. Escorted by her proud Mama, Marilu, she danced and pranced around the main arena to the sounds of the Nutcracker Suite, and a few other familiar orchestrations. And it was not easy in what felt like 110 degrees! But Lu was determined to pull it together, since wanting to do it since she was a little girl. Last year Lu just observed the costume class at the fair, and decided then and there she was going to be in it this year. There were four costume classes, with four different judging parameters this year. A woman in a \$20,000 (Lu asked her) lavish Arabian outfit for her and her Arab, won 1st place in the "Most Original" class. She had to win; they looked like they were right off of a movie set! The woman came back in for the "Most Beautiful" class but had to settle for 2nd place against Annie, the beautiful ballerina. It just goes to show you, \$10 worth of material, and a LOT of love, go a long way.

RR Bar-B-Que



This summer we had the annual going away BBQ for Michelle. As it turned out, she could not make it 😞 because she was away! But

somehow we managed to have a good time anyway. There was an abundance of good food and drink. We were entertained by Mickey Tilson, and his trio. The kids played volley ball, the men played Bocce, and the rest brought everyone up to date on the latest facet of life in 2010. Again it was another scorcher of a day, we've had plenty of them this summer, but that didn't stop everyone from having a good time. And ten minutes after dark, we enjoyed our own RR fireworks display. And, the Cops didn't even come!

A Therapeutic Touch

A full service Massage Studio, right here on Rainbow Ranch.

To schedule a human massage contact Marilu at 908-319-7381

To schedule an equine massage contact Robin at 908-763-2309

Lino Update

Lino has been doing wonderful working with Michelle in WV. Well not always working.



As you can see from the picture above, his maturity has developed under her guidance, and his coordination and balance have improved greatly. Michelle reports that out on the trail he is still a little "young", but in a ring he has it all together. Not to mention the great shape he is in!



All muscled up and now ready for graduate school. He will be leaving WV on Sunday Sept 12th and going directly to a training facility here in NJ about 20 miles from home. While there he will be intensively taught how to work cattle. He'll have two classes a day, every day for about a month or so. Depending on how talented he is, will depend on how long he will stay there. Maybe till the end of October. I'm sure I'll have more to report in the fall or winter newsletter.

Riding Trails Expanded

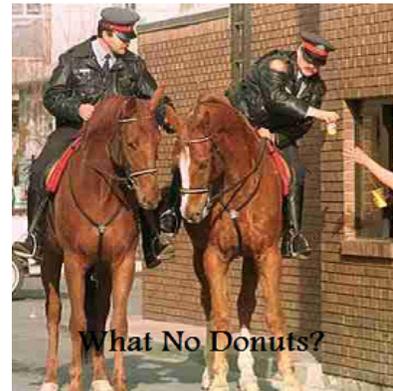
On Sunday, May 2nd a brave group of about 4 or 5 headed out to the woods with chain saws, weed whackers, and hand tools, to expand the riding trail behind RR. It was hot, humid, and buggy, but this small band spread out and attacked the brush and added a couple of miles to the existing trail. If I had to acknowledge one person in the group, it would have to be Kim and her monster weed whacker. The thing would be the envy of any "Jason type" who had used a power tool in a horror movie. And Kim had the staying power to keep the thing going until the job was done. Thanks to everyone who spent their time on the project.

Alexa Retires

Well not really; just from her regular duties here at RR. She will still be on the sidelines to work a B-day party here and there. And maybe help with a special project from time to time. She has joined her school's field hockey team, and is already on the softball team. Being the great athlete that she is, she just can't spread herself too thin. Please join me in wishing her great success in her athlete endeavors.



Best Picture of the Quarter



Best Joke of the Quarter

JUNIOR: Daddy, there's a man at the circus who jumps on a horse's back, slips underneath his belly, catches hold of its tail and finishes on the horse's neck!

FATHER: That's nothing Son. I did all that the first time I rode a horse!

Down the Road a Bit

- * On site parties and petting zoo to close after this season.
- * Fall Riding program to start
- * New self care for boarders
- * 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.