
◆ The 777 Ranch Report ◆

A ministry of Rocky Mountain West Baptist Mission, P.O. Box 1025, Ferron, Utah 84523 (Reach us at 435-384-3001, or visit us at www.777ranch.org)

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777 RANCH TO BE FEATURED IN THE WESTERN HORSEMAN DECEMBER ISSUE

In August we received a call from Jennifer Denison, an award-winning journalist for probably the most widely read horse magazine. Some of you may have read her article on Jeff Gore, who comes to our adult horsemanship camps and who sings for our annual Cowboy Poetry Gathering. Somehow while she was talking with Jeff, he told her about us, sparking her interest, and she came to check us out. A week or so later, she came back during our Adult Horsemanship Extravaganza and rode with the campers and interviewed those who were here. Needless to say, we are excited about this opportunity! What she has written pretty well sums up our horsemanship programs, at least from what she sent us to check over. If the article generates the interest anticipated, we're prepared to make room for another camp or two. Please pray with us that God will be honored in all that goes on here at the 777 Ranch as we seek to use the outside of a horse to develop the inside of a man and point people to Jesus Christ and the Bible.

Please note that our *Cowboy Poetry Gathering* is a bit earlier than usual this next year. Don't forget to mark your own calendars and let your friends know of the change. (Our schedule is based on when our performers can come and this year was a toughie!) Thanks!

Something new we're trying this August is a *Father/Son Retreat*. (Some dads and sons are reported as being a bit jealous when moms and sisters come back with reports of a great time at the All Daughters Get-away.) Watch for more details in a future ranch report.

Calendar for 2016

May 6, 7

All Daughters Getaway

May 21

Cowboy Poetry Gathering

May 24-30

Adult Horsemanship Extravaganza I
with Cowboy Poet/Singer Jeff Gore

June 19-25

Teen Horsemanship Camp I
Speaker—Pastor Tony Garren

June 27-July 9

Ranch Hands for Guys and Gals

July 10-16

Teen Horsemanship Camp II

August (TBA)

Kids' Day Camp

August (TBA)

Father/Son Retreat

September 4-10

Adult Horsemanship Extravaganza II
with Cowboy Poet/Singer Jeff Gore

So, what is happening at the 777 Ranch right now? The last several weeks have been spent rounding up cattle off the summer mountain lease. Three hundred plus head of cows and their calves have lots of room to hide on thousands of acres of U.S. Forest Service land. (But you can't beat the view at 8,000 feet!)

Those campers here for the adult horsemanship extravaganza in September got to help with pushing the herd in preparation for them to be driven to holding corrals and then hauled by horse trailer loads to the Emery farm. Eventually, all the calves of weaning size were hauled by cattle truck to the 777 Ranch where they were put through the chute to get shots. (Calves often get sick when the days are warm and nights cold.) They're being fed hay in preparation for the sale in the next month.

This past week the vet came to preg check all the momma cows. (He can even tell how many months along each cow is!) Then they were hauled to the desert BLM lease for the winter. Those who turned up empty were hauled to the sale. The whole process is a lot of work, but it has some fun moments, too!

The weather has turned cold with some snow on the higher peaks around us. It's time to winterize the arena and bunkhouses and offices, Snack Shack, and bedroom cabins, making sure pipes don't freeze and break in the spring. So far we haven't had to break ice on the water troughs, but that chore will be coming soon.

Horses will need to be worked throughout the late fall and winter months as we have some young ones needing to get beyond the green-broke stage and trained to be ready for the riding string come camping season. Some of our older horses will eventually need to be replaced with other well-broke horses as they struggle to stay sound through camp.

Katie is currently fixing the website so that those of you with Smart phones and tablets can view the slide shows, etc. Things should pretty well be under control by the end of November. She's also working on getting camps and advertising trips scheduled. At this point, we will have our booth at Roper Cowboy Marketplace at Mandalay Bay during Cowboy Christmas and the NFR in Las Vegas December 3-17 and at the horse expo in South Jordan, Utah, March 18-20. Come find us and say "Howdy!"
