

From the Tack Room

By: Brett Graves

As our “group” season draws to a close, I’m saddened to see it end. I love seeing all the youth at the ranch with their big smiles and stories of their ranch adventures. I will miss the laughter that always comes when the kids get to paint their hands and leave their print on the arena fence. The countless number of “thank yous” that always come from a happy heart and the endless supply of hugs from the kids God has touched on their way through here. I’m reminded of all that as I walk out every morning to start my day. My heart is filled with God’s love and the many blessings he has laid upon me and all those who came in contact with us this past Spring and Summer. But there is still much to be done for the Fall and Winter seasons.

God has continued to open doors for the ranch this year. He has brought us in touch with youth groups from Pawnee Mental Health in Junction City which has after school programs and summer programs for area youth. He has also brought us a disciples group from “The City” teen center in Salina. I pray that the Lord will continue to bless these new relationships. We are also seeing new doors being opened through New Trail Fellowship from Abilene when we were asked to help sponsor a concert put on by Branded-Duo, an awesome country Christian band that was traveling back from the Country Stampede. We were also able to participate in “Conquering the Beast” bull ride in Salina that was put on by our new friend Pastor Casey Strong from Salina. Our name is definitely getting out to the public. There are still hurting families and youth around our surrounding areas that could benefit from the ranch and the love of our Lord so our outreach will not end but continue even through the cold months of winter.

We have started getting a volunteer base set up with some wonderful young people from around the area who are always more than willing to come out and help with groups anytime we need them. Without our volunteer’s selflessness and dedication we would not have been able to have the number of groups visit us this season that we did. I pray as we get busier that we will have an even larger group of volunteers helping at the ranch. I would love one day that our volunteers would be able to become paid staff at least through the summer months.

We will also be posting new funding possibilities for the ranch. Things like an “Adopt a Horse” program which have been enclosed in our newsletter. The “Adopt a Horse” forms are also available on our web page, so please pass them on to friends and family. This program also makes a wonderful Christmas, Birthday present or a group fundraising opportunity for classrooms and Sunday School classes.

I want to send out a special thank you to all who have helped out in all ways this past season. Without you and your support we could not achieve what has been placed before us. Please continue your support and pray that the Lord will continue to bless Shiloh Ranch.

Brett Graves
Executive Director
Shiloh Ranch Ministries