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Hello folks!

What an amazing week! We saw huge changes in each rider as well as in their horses and it was super neat to watch as the week unfolded.

Each rider stood out in their own ways. Jeff—our Deputy Sheriff (who prefers “powdered donuts”) and was on his second week here--helped the boys all week mucking stalls, helping to feed and clean the arena. When it came to roping and working cattle Jeff jumped in to help out with every team and his roping was even better than it was last week. I don’t remember seeing him miss even once!

Jerry almost wasn’t able to make it out here last minute, but he’s sure glad he did! He was such a pleasure to be around and his dry sense of humor had us chuckling all week. Dunny taught him a lot and he was itching to get back home to work at this



From left to right: Jeff, Patty, Garry and Ginny

horsemanship with his own horses.



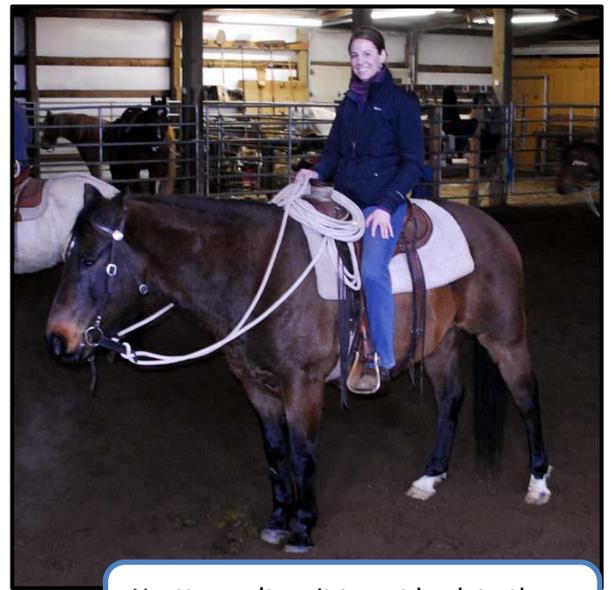
There’s Jerry about to catch with Brandon following close behind...

Garry and Ginny came here all the way from the UK! Gary showed up with a pair of shotgun chaps that were previously owned by RAY HUNT! Needless to say, each of the boys had to try them on. They seemed to fit Nathan perfectly, but Garry wasn’t about to go for any trades ;)

Garry came as more of an advanced rider and Ginny had a little less time under saddle but they both came away with plenty of knowledge. I don’t believe either of them has ever worked with cattle before but they took to it with zeal! Neither of them were afraid to jump their horse out to block a steer on the fence.

Brandon came to us from Washington. He's been following Buck's way of teaching and really wanted to get some quality time in with quality instructors. Naturally, he came to us! Brandon learned a lot about getting his horse engaged with proper flexion (since Shayne had him riding LOTS of short serpentine!) He wasn't afraid to jump in when they had a steer roped and stretched out and needed someone to work the ground.

A big round of applause ought to go out to Yvette, who was on her second trip to the ranch. She came to the ranch with a rib out of place to begin with, but was determined to get as much out of this week as possible. I think she far exceeded every expectation and we are all very proud of her.



Yvette can't wait to get back to the ranch for two full weeks in October!

Yvette had only ridden about 7 times IN HER LIFE when she got here with us this week (5 of those times were with us last fall.) By Tuesday morning she was not only loping, but doing flying lead changes with Brownie! By Wednesday she was roping and by Thursday she was catching steers! She had one catch on Friday where she caught and stacked several dallies onto her horn while moving her horses hind end in line with the steer. It doesn't get much better than that!

One of our neatest guests this week was none other than Roby's mom, Patty! Patty teaches horsemanship to English riders back East, and has been riding in the Classical Dressage style for many years. When she came here she let Roby know that she would be doing horsemanship with us, but she would NOT work with cattle and she most definitely wouldn't rope! Roby offered a \$50 reward to anyone who could get Patty to swing a rope. I think Chris ultimately won the \$50 and we were all glad he did!



There's Patty making another catch! Below she's smiling with Roby 😊

Patty rode her horse, Cheech, very well and Cheech, who can get excited around the cattle, never seemed to get uncomfortable or pushy. As for roping—well she turned out to be a natural! After that first catch she was





Chris and I holding herd and keeping out any steers who tried to run back

HOOKED! It was such a cool thing to see how happy she was when she stepped out of that comfort zone and gave it everything she had. Roby was very proud of his mamma!

In other news, Randy left the ranch on Wednesday morning in search of some beef. He found 120 steers that should be coming in early next week! The boys are all geared up for vaccinating and worming the new bunch. It'll be nice to have some fresh cattle to work with.

Erin spent much of the week working with Pat who was quite impressed with her! Over the course of the week he taught her how to run the excavator as well as how to run the tractor and load our square hay bales. He also showed her all of the basics of driving the dump truck and she even helped him to service it. He said that even with the seat suspension as high as it would go, he could only see the top of her head above the steering wheel!

Erin also did a stellar job of organizing the shop lean-to. It sounds like she's getting pretty handy!



On Friday afternoon, Dori took some of the guests over to visit our neighbor's rescue wolves up the street from the ranch

Well I'm going to try and get a hike in before it gets too late this afternoon.

Don't forget to set your clocks for daylight savings time tomorrow!

Have a great weekend,

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