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Hello folks!

It's looking to be a busy Saturday as the boys are all out with our veterinarian, worming and helping to give over 90 horses their spring shots! It snowed all morning but the thankfully the sun came out and started shining brightly. Let's hope it stays that way for a few days!

Want to see what the first day of spring looked like for us?

First it rained...



Then it snowed...



Then it REALLY snowed!



The deer are back and are all over the place!

We had a whopping 10 guests here this week! For a winter week, these were pretty hefty numbers but Shayne, Dori, Roby and (on Friday) Randy kept the ball rolling and everyone was kept so busy working on horsemanship, cattle work and roping that it didn't seem "crowded" at all!

A lot of our guests this week were very beginner riders, but everyone improved their riding drastically. One of our guests, Elizabeth had never been on a horse before and was pretty timid about riding at first (she mostly came to watch her husband Paul and daughters Rachel and Leah ride.) But we got her on a horse anyway and she stuck it through the entire week!

I had to laugh...one day this week I was pulling our roping dummy "Ugly" for the guests to practice on and at one point got my horse into a lope pulling the dummy around the arena. Lo and behold, Elizabeth's first throw ever, caught...and on a "fast cow!"

We used several of our new steers to rope on this week and they were pretty fast as well. But nearly everyone caught on the fast cattle! There is a lag between the joy of that first catch to the time your brain registers that the steer is running off with your rope and you need to dally onto the saddle horn! We lost a fair share of ropes the first day but by Friday the guests had their dallying down.



Nathan and Randy went out on Thursday and Friday to bring in some cattle

There's little Sparky about to track up on a steer!



Lisa came here with a 3 year old colt with about 10 rides on him. He had a good mind but really hadn't been introduced to cattle or ropes at all and was just a little sticky about some things. Shayne had Roby ride him a few times during the week and you could tell that Lisa was a proud momma watching her little colt! Roby named him "Sparky" and was popping off flying lead changes (without the aid of a log,) working cattle and breakaway roping with ease.

Tom must have really let all of the learning from his first week soak in over last weekend because he was on a roll this week!

Alice and Chris came here for the second time in 5 years and spent a few days getting their riding legs back but by the end of the week they were doing great and wanting more. They said this time they're going to be riding when they go home and they're going to make a point of riding with folks who are of a like mind as us. That way, they'll be ready when they come out next year!



We're making a wall to bring up a batch of steers to be roped



There's Leah on Dually throwing a big loop!
Leah, Rachel, Paul and Elizabeth were a family
that had a whole lotta try!

Bud joined us once again and felt like he had a lot more tools to take back home to his own horse. One thing that he really enjoyed this week was the ability to learn from so many different "teachers." Everyone has their own style of teaching the same thing—but different folks relate better some some styles more than others and oftentimes—hearing the same thing several times but with a different approach helps a person to gain the perspective to truly understand the task at hand.

This was also true for Amy, who had never had formal riding lessons although she had done a few clinics. She said what she really needed was for someone to be there to tell her whether she was on the right track or not and if she wasn't...what she would need to do to get there.



Bovine Chiropractic at McGinnis!

Chris, Nathan and Erin spent time earlier this week helping to get fences checked, repaired and set up to move the horses and cattle to different pastures. If the weather holds next week we might just be able to get some outside riding in with our horses! We're keeping our fingers crossed ☺

Have a great weekend,

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This is one of our coming 2 year old colts, Dude. Nothing seems to phase this little guy!