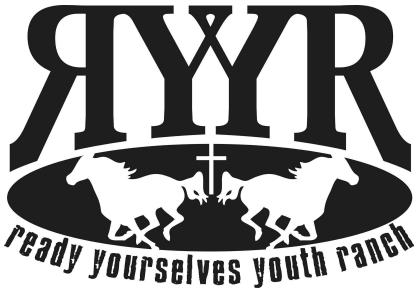


February 2024



Our Vision: For every child to experience redemption
Our Mission: LOVE the child, SAVE the horse,
enable children and their families to realize
the HOPE they can have in Jesus Christ



God's Gardeners

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. - 1 Corinthians 3:6

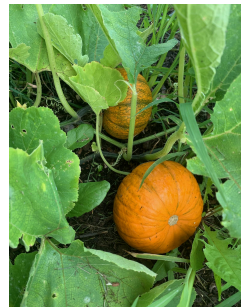


On a chilly, windy day last fall, RYYR was scheduled to take some ponies to pet and paint at a local fall festival. The sun was barely making an appearance, and as Micheline and several teen volunteers arrived at the barn to load the trailer and hit the road, we were debating canceling, debating whether or not anyone would show or even want to touch paint with the cold wind! Committed, they rolled out with a horse, a donkey, and a mini in tow. These expectations were accurate - so few people showed up, volunteers took turns staying warm in the truck, and Micheline wondered if it was worth it...

But part way through the afternoon, a familiar face showed up. He is the single father of a young woman who first came to the ranch at age 13, dealing with a variety of challenges and struggling to find her way. She knew about God, but didn't feel close to Him. She loved horses, and had a little experience riding, but nothing like the relational horsemanship RYYR focuses on.

Five years later, her dad saw a post that RYYR would be at this local festival, and went out of his way to make the trip to seek out Micheline to *thank* her. He expressed deep gratitude for the ranch and the impact of the mentors who've loved and cared for and challenged his daughter through her teenage years. When he desperately needed help, God sent RYYR into his daughter's path. Not through ideal circumstances, by the world's reckoning, but in the right time to set her on a course towards God and a renewed relationship with Him, and to continue influencing her life during difficult times. Has that path been smooth and pretty with no setbacks? Of course not! None of our paths are! Has God shown His ability to forgive and renew and redeem brokenness over and over again when a person seeks Him? Yes!! "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory" (Ephesians 3:20-21)

His daughter moved a distance from the ranch after graduation, and while we don't see her as frequently as we wish, and many other kids must be our focus daily at the ranch, we delight in visits when old "ranch kids" come back and we get to reconnect and learn about all the joys and trials of their lives. The 1 Corinthians verse above keeps coming to mind when thinking of the youth God has brought to the ranch over the years: sometimes we plant seeds of faith; sometimes we provide spiritual food, hoping it's absorbed; but we trust God to continue working in hearts and through the community of His faithful people whether or not we're privileged to see the growth. Final results only happen in heaven! Until then we're all in the growing stage.



“He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.”

1 Thessalonians 5:24

Testimonials from long-time participants:

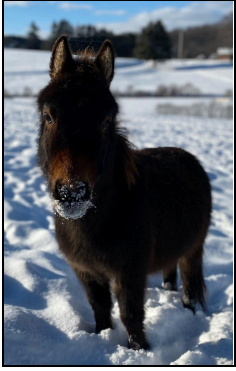
- “My daughter has participated in the program for the last 7 years! We started the program to try to help her with social skills along with trying to help her develop an interest/hobby, as sports just were not in the cards. Over the last years she has found a true passion for horses and a safe haven at RYYR. It is the 1 place that I truly see her being herself; where she feels comfortable and in control of something she enjoys. I am beyond thankful for not only the program, but the volunteers who are compassionate, patient, and kind.”



- “My daughter is Deaf and developmentally delayed. At 16 years old she is too tall and old to play with children of her same intellect. This leaves her confused and lonely as to why she cannot be with kids she sees herself fitting in with. RYYR is the only place she fits in everywhere with staff, clients, and animals. They are her only friends. Our school district and church community have failed her but in 8 years RYYR never has failed her once.”



While RYYR is far from perfect, we hold tight to God’s promises and rejoice at seeing His grace and love felt by the youth who come our way. “Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God” (2 Corinthians 3:5). “Only fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things He has done for you” (1 Samuel 12:24). We are thankful for testimonies such as these, that show God’s work through this small ranch of His! These years-long examples show how even as our volunteers and horses change, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8). Praise God! He has done it!



HORSE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We've had multiple inquiries about sponsoring some of our horses and have created a variety of sponsorship opportunities. There are opportunities for small, affordable monthly sponsorships, up to a full year of sponsorship. Would you prayerfully consider choosing a horse to sponsor?

Please email micheline.barkley@ryyr.org for additional information.

Thank you!

County Program Saturdays - the liveliest days of winter!

Check out some of the fun that was had while working together last month! These young people who show up every month have built a neat community as they've worked through emotions, allergies, disagreements, sharing favorite horses, and all sorts of fun and challenges (MUD!!). The best conversations often happen over lunch, while brushing a horse, walking to the paddock, or on the drive home. We're so thankful for our RYYR van and the opportunity to provide these days for youth who wouldn't otherwise be able to get to the ranch.



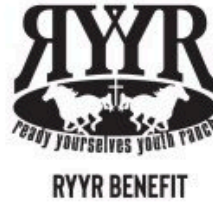
Volunteer Seasons

And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. - Philippians 4:19

We go through seasons of volunteers. Some fall away when cold weather hits, more arrive in summer when school lets out. However we also have longer seasons - about every 4 years we watch our older teens who came as timid middle schoolers take on bigger things in life. Sometimes they stay at the ranch and fill larger roles as they share what they've learned! Sometimes God leads elsewhere as their interests and communities widen - there's so much creation to explore! We're currently going through such a season, so could use more help during various chore times on a weekly basis. **If you or someone you know would be interested in joining the work of RYYR through volunteering for weekly chores, contact us for a barn tour or check out our volunteer application here: www.ryyr.org/volunteer-application**

MARCH 2024 FUNDRAISER!
Get your tickets now @ [RYYR.org](https://www.ryyr.org)

ONLY 500 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD!



SPORTSMAN'S Bash

GUNS SUPPLIED BY
National Army

MARCH 9, 2024

DOORS OPEN AT 11:00
DRAWINGS BEGIN AT NOON

CONWAY VFD

900 S Gross St, Conway, PA 15027



\$60 Ticket

Includes:

- Food & Drink
- Chinese Auction
- 50/50 Raffle
- More!

↑ Scan code to purchase tickets or visit [ryyr.org](https://www.ryyr.org).

PRIZES INCLUDE:

- Henry H004 .22LR
- Auto-Ordnance Tommy Gun .45ACP
- Colt Anaconda .44MAG
- Smith & Wesson 642PC .38 Special
- Browning X-Bolt 6.5CM
- Sig Sauer P-365X 9MM
- Weatherby Orion Sporting 20 Gauge
- Ruger AR-556 5.56/.233
- Savage Impule 308WIN
- Winchester SXP Turkey 12 Gauge
- Sig Sauer M11 A1 9MM
- Ruger 10/22 .22LR
- Winchester 1873 .357 Magnum
- Ruger Vaquero .357 Magnum
- Henry Axe .410 Gauge
- \$2000 in Cash drawings

Sponsorships available. Visit [ryyr.org](https://www.ryyr.org) for information.

All winners must pass background check. Transfers are done the day of event and are included in the ticket price. Tickets must be presented at the door for admission. One person per ticket. If a specific prize is no longer available a prize of similar value will be substituted. All prizes not claimed within 30 days become property of Ready Yourselfes Youth Ranch. Winner need not be present; winners will be notified.

Upcoming Events:



**June
15th**



**September
14th**

Christmas Volunteer Fun!



RYYR Wishlist:

- **Chinese auction baskets for our Sportsman's Bash on March 9**

If you would like to contribute a basket please contact Micheline 724-713-1653. All variety of themes are welcome!



- **Gift cards (needed before summer!)**

We love to give the kids small value gift cards to reward them when we catch them doing good. When they've done something without being asked or when they've been more thorough or thoughtful and especially kind, we give them a thanks and a gift card to show them we noticed. Some of these kids don't get encouragement so this is just a small way that we can do that. Small value of \$10 to places like Subway, Chick-fil-a, McDonald's, Dairy Queen, etc.

- **Artificial flowers for obstacles**

Horse nibbles; sun, wind, and rain; curious children - these flowers go through a lot and need to be replaced regularly.

Or you can donate to RYYR and we will put it towards current needs! **Paypal: @ryyr2010**

More ideas: See our Amazon wish list [here](#)

If you live locally, some items on our Amazon wish list are cheaper when bought locally and brought to us.



THANK YOU!

Thanks to a few generous donors we have refilled our paper plate stock, can use 2 brand new wheelbarrows for chores, and were able to add gravel to muddy driveways and paths before spring!

Prayer & Praise Requests:

- For RYYR's board members and leadership as we work on updating various ranch forms/information and seek God's vision for future plans.
- Praise for a few new folks interested in becoming mentors for 2024, and prayer for more mentors willing to share their time and faith, and learn about horses!
- Prayer for mentor training starting in April, and program applications and tours for new families currently underway.
- For us to be bold in seeing and taking opportunities to speak God's word in the lives of youth who come during winter programs.
- Praise for a relatively smooth winter so far, and prayer for horse and human health as we go into mud season!

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND PRAYERS!

Learn more: Visit our [Website](#). Share our [Video](#). And don't forget to follow us on [Facebook](#) for event updates!