

" **Two are better** than one, because they have a good return for their labor."

-Ecclesiastes 4:9

AMAZING HELP

-by Micheline Barkley

There are days, when I arrive at the barn and am overwhelmed by all there is to do. I say a quick prayer, " God, I know you will give me what I need for the day. Your grace is sufficient for me." and I pray that it will all be taken care of. When I enter the barn, there are two volunteers already there. Then, as we are working, another one comes to help with maintenance and yard work. I sigh and smile and chide myself, "You doubting Thomas."

We have been blessed with the most dedicated volunteers anyone has ever known. Recently, one volunteer told me of an adventure she had with another volunteer. Lynn had shoulder surgery and had her arm in a sling and could not steer to drive. Meanwhile, Charlene was in a cast on her one foot and could drive but could not walk more than a couple of steps. Together, they devised a plan to deliver and hang posters to promote our June 25th Trail Ride fundraiser. Charlene drove to various locations and Lynn would jump out and run the posters to their destinations. There was some chuckling as Lynn recounted the story, which of course, made us all laugh. However, I later reflected on the story and realized what awesome, generous and loving volunteers we have and I thank God for each and every one!

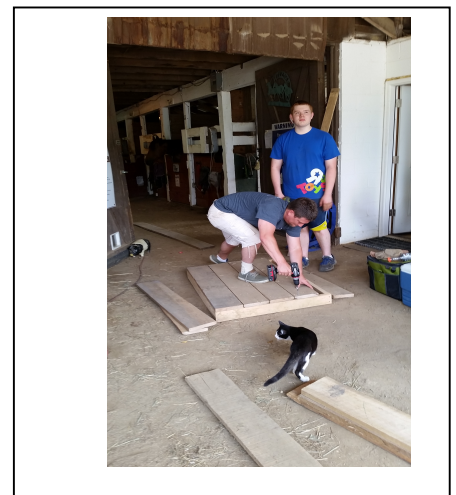
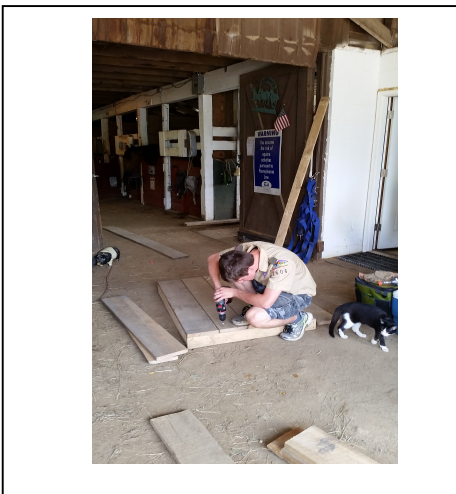
It's that time of year when the children begin to come to the ranch and we pair up mentors with kids in need. I recently had a conversation with a male mentor that made me smile inside because it became apparent that God was truly at the ranch at that moment. The children that come to our ranch have a variety of adversities and matching them up with the appropriate mentor can be difficult but is so important. I read the applicant's information to the mentor indicating that the child was dealing with anxiety, ADHD and personality issues that made him a frequent victim of bullying as well as making friendships difficult. Half way through the description, the mentor said matter-of- factly,

"Sounds like I'm going to be mentoring myself (when he was a child.)" I smiled and said, "Isn't that amazing how God works?"

We have volunteers ranging from teens to eighties. But I must admit that the age does not always equal the work produced. Take Bill Stroup, for example. Bill is a fellow member of our church, Family Bible Church. He just showed up one day when the sun was blazing hot. He brought tools and his weed whacker. This man weed whacked around our very large fence lines, he's mowed grass with a push mower, he has helped us stack hay bales and brush hogged our fields. And that was just two days that he was at RYYR! I believe this man to be, as his daughter-in-law has said, "A beast!" This is the second time in my life that have seen someone over 70 that can work circles around others that are younger than them. And again I say....Amazing Help.

Then there are the crazy volunteers. Wayne Jacobs, specifically, or BW as we like to call him. The man works four 10 hour days and on his 3 days off, he volunteers at RYYR. On several occasions, he spent over 12 hours at the ranch helping. Ironically, BW is afraid of horses. He grew up spending a lot of time at his aunt and uncle's cow farm so he was very comfortable with cows, but not so much with horses. He doesn't mind cleaning a stall or feeding the horses, but physically being right next to one isn't his idea of comfortable. So Katie Stathes lovingly forced him to get on and ride a horse. Hahahahahaha....love ya BW! But on a more serious note, BW suffered a heart attack recently and we would truly appreciate your prayers for his recovery. We truly miss him.

Last month you read about the entire student body of Beaver County Christian School volunteering for a work day. We are so blessed to have other groups helping out, such as this Eagle Scout, Sebastien. He showed up in full force with tools and several helpers to create a replacement double door for our wash stall exit. The old door is sadly rotted and sagging from many years of neglect. Here are some photos of the boys hard at work and getting some help from our barn cat "Moo."



Then there are the daily regulars like Katie , Rebecca, Don and Zoe. And not to mention the weekly volunteers: Shannon, Mike, Savannah, Anthony, MaryKay, Connie, Bri, Tracy, Tina, Ken, Russ, Phil, Lily, Sara, Victoria, Juliet & Amy, Jordon, Bobbie & Shelly. Without all of whom, I might have keeled over by now :) Can't thank all of our volunteers enough!

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!

Don't forget that we are having day camps for underprivileged kids in July and need the following donations:

- *snacks, juice & water bottles
 - *wood or Styrofoam picture frames ready to be painted/decorated
 - *craft paint and Styrofoam pieces & glue
 - *craft paint brushes (variety of sizes – disposable foam paint brushes too)
 - *hard candy (some sugar free too) Prizes for participation, winning relays, etc.
 - *napkins and paper towels
- OR YOU CAN DONATE:
- *Gift cards for Walmart and Michael's

Events Reminder

RYYR Community Yard Sale & Tack Swap: July 9th

-You can either pay for a 10 x 10 area (\$20) to sell your yard sale items

-OR-

-You can donate items to RYYR with RYYR keeping the proceeds

RYYR Fun Gaming Show at Brady's Run Park: July 23rd*

*We will need prize donations and baskets for Chinese Auctions during these events. Please consider donating. Here are some ideas: gift cards, services, themed items!

Thanks to all who came out for our annual Golf Outing at Ponderosa Golf course last month. We had about 40 participants and wonderful prizes such as Steelers, Penguin & Pirates tickets. A great time was had by all even though it was a chilly, wet day.

And thank all of you for supporting us in prayer, donation and giving of your time!

www.RYYR.org

724-713-1653

Email: michelinebar@verizon.net

Mailing Address: 110 Paige Dr., Rochester, PA 15074
Facility Location: Meehan Lane, New Brighton, PA 15066