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Greetings everyone!

POKER RUN was the word for the week! This week was the ranch's version of Kids week. We had two families visiting us. One has been coming to the ranch for many years and the other met up with them last year and arranged to meet back here this year for a get together.

The four kids get along famously and had a blast all week. There were lots of adventures looking for cattle, a



Dori giving instructions to the group for the poker run

bonfire complete with Boot Branding, and the highlight of the week, a Poker Run! The ranch elves headed out early Tuesday morning and set out decks of cards at various sign in stations all throughout the "state" grazing piece where the cattle are currently turned out. Each team was supplied with a topo map that listed the stations, and they then had to find the stations, pick a card (blind!) and sign in to show they were actually there. Some of the stations had candy as well, for the kids (yeah, right ☺).

A view from the back as Sue Jingles in the herd early morning

There were total of 11 stations and some were pretty challenging to find. You definitely needed map reading skills and a sense of direction. Even if you knew the trails, you still had to be able to find the station. At the end the cards were turned in and the team with the highest poker hand was declared the winner. It turned out to be led by our farrier/wrangler Nathan, and included Lisa K, and her



Aaron, Lisa' brother, visited with his daughter Kaci and her friend Rachel

brother Aaron. They won a prize for their efforts, but everyone agreed that the day was a prize in and of itself!

The Poker Run idea also had another method to its madness... The wranglers and interns were tasked with learning the state piece section so that when we begin moving cattle out to graze next week, we would have an idea where all the gates, water tanks and mineral tubs are. So last weekend, we all headed out with maps in hand and hiked all over the mountain. It was fun to see all the staff out together, and getting a job done

in the process.

All through the week the guests also had lots of opportunities to drive cattle, search for any sick steers, and bring some in for cattle games in the arena. Everyone who wanted to do cattle games were required to ride in a horsemanship class with Shayne first, and the results were amazing. The



Zach gets the 6 of hearts at a station

horses were quiet and riders really knew how to move their horses around the cattle. The cattle this season are a little bit touchier than last years, so the horse and rider can have an influence on them with the slightest movements or pressure. It really tests how well your horse is with you!



Kids on the mountain!



Rachel with Isaiah and Kaci with Jasper



Lisa with Zach and Leo!

There was also an interest in learning to rope this week, and you could find wranglers and kids out by the bonfire several nights, throwing a rope. There were also trail rides to Moose Pond and around the ranch, and Nathan gave one of his informative shoeing demo's.



Amber, Jeremy, Todd & Brandon at Moose Pond

Leo and his dad Steve, spending quality time scaling mountains!



Summer is almost officially here, and this weekend we also celebrate Dad on Father's Day! There is a lot to be grateful for as we continue into our peak season at the ranch.



The skittles were a big hit with Jeremy!



Staff and interns Mountain exploring!



Celebrating summer with the planting
of flowers!

Have a great week!

Janice