



MAYTAG MOUNTAIN RANCH

Ranch Happenings

Ranch News By: Mike Leal



Howdy to all our Maytag Mountain families. I guess when you are as busy as we are around the ranch time just flies by. Here we are; spring has sprung.

The grass is coming and it's really starting to green up here at the ranch. Irrigation season is just around the corner so we have built a few new headgates that will be installed soon. We've started up the sprinkler systems and have planted around 150 new trees all over the ranch. We decided to try something different this year by hiring a lawn service to do all the mowing. It will free up Paul for other projects.

The recycle bins are in place now so we can all do our part in helping the environment. We didn't make it this year for our Organic Certification, but it will be in place before next year. There was just too much to do and not enough time before calving season. By the way we are calving now. It sure is nice to see new healthy calves just lying around basking the sun while others are bucking and playing.

It was nice to see Dr. George Van Wormer and his brothers Doug

and Mark at the ranch. They were able to do some horse back riding, but really did a lot of fishing. They even had a guide take them out on the Arkansas River.

The first part of May we had a photo shoot here at the ranch with Food & Wine Magazine. Twyla and I found a really gentle red Angus steer that is a 4-H project and belongs to one of our local ranches. The steer's name is Hollywood and he sure lived up to his name. He was great, so keep your eyes open for the August issue.

Jenny, our new gardener is really hustling in the garden to keep up, and we think she is doing a great job. The bees decided to swarm from one of the hives and Jenny was able to save most of them so now we have three hives to use for honey. I even had a bee hive in one of the apple trees at our house that decided to swarm, but we weren't able to save them. It must be the time of year that they swarm, I think I am going to buy a bee suit so I can learn and help Jenny.

Until next time,
Happy Trails.



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Greetings From Maytag Mountain Ranch By: Twyla Walker

April and May have been busy months with many accomplishments here on the ranch. We are enjoying the warmer weather, greener grass, and multiple spring flowers. Jeannie's hard work planting spring bulbs has paid off; we have enjoyed the multiple colors of flowers this year.

There are always many clean up and get ready for summer chores in the spring, and here at the ranch it's no different. Our gardener, Jenny, and Paul have been trying to get the trees pruned and old foliage cut off of the plants as well as getting new plants planted. We planted 150 new trees this year, they include: Aspen, Ponderosa, Colorado Blue Spruce, and Pinion Pine.

Mike went to his home state of Texas for Easter week. Paul and I tried to hold the fort down in Mike's absence. Luckily for us we had enough good grass to quit feeding hay to the cows and horses. I enjoyed Easter here on the ranch. It was a beautiful day and after work I was able to see my granddaughter. We just had to go feed the fish, what fun! It was exciting for me to get to see all of the fish in the ponds. I got a wonderful Easter card from "Big Sur Cow-girl." Thanks, Mary.

The horses have all had their

teeth "floated," a term used for dental work. A couple of horses had molars extracted. They also have had their spring shots. Otto got a quarter crack in his hoof. He saw Dr. Naugle twice in one week but he is doing well now and can be ridden again. We always check our geldings this time of year and clean sheaths as part of their routine care.

We had one of our normal spring snow storms the end April. It was great to get the moisture but of course it wrecked our versatility clinic that was scheduled. The Martin family and George Van Wormer and his brothers, Doug and Mark, were here for our spring snowstorm.

We sold three horses in May and bought one last new horse. Our new horse is a red roan ranch horse. He is nine years old and has been used extensively for ranch work. His name is Chance.

Don't forget to plan for our Versatility Clinic June 3-4th. We hope to see you there. We are planning on learning a lot and having fun while we learn.

Until next month,
Cut a fast cow on a good horse,

Twyla

