



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFF POSSES AND RIDING CLUBS

RIDER'S ROUNDUP

MAY 2013 ***** Volume 14***** Issue 5



**GET READY TO
SIGN UP FOR
PLAYDAY FINALS**

The Rider's RoundUp

Official Publication of the
**AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
SHERIFF POSSES AND
RIDING CLUBS**

Published and printed monthly.
Send Correspondence to:

AASPRC

P.O. Box 423

Kempner, TX 76539

Visit www.aasprc.net for location

Yearly Advertising Rates

Any business or organization wanting to advertise in the Riders Round Up can email to: stephania1711@gmail.com or mail to 6036 Navajo Rd, San Angelo, TX, 76901 and send your payment to the Kempner address.

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1/4 Page - \$125.00

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Classified Ads

.10 each word, add a picture for \$1. No ad will run until payment is confirmed.

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If you are having a problem with the email that was provided to the Rider's Round Up Chair.... Please send your request of change to stephania1711@gmail.com. But remember you can delete the emails of your choosing and leave the address alone for other information that could be sent later on in the year.

Send Articles to:
stephania1711@gmail.com

Articles and Pictures for Publication

Are due the 27th of each month. As soon as your last event is over you need to start working on your article. The sooner the better.

Rider's Roundup Chair

I can't say this enough,

Please push yourselves to turn in your articles as soon as possible. If you are going to be late let me know by email as soon as you know. I can work with you. But not if its going to be longer than a day of two.

The Riders Round Up is the best way to let all of our members know when your events are within your club and let us know all about your members.

The Riders Round Up is also a most essential tool for new members within your club. Everybody loves to see their name, or their picture, or their success stories of their family members in the newsletter.

So get motivated and start writing those articles.

*See you on the flip side, of the next page,
Stephani Foltz, Riders Round Up Chair*



Notice: The purpose of the Riders Round Up is to be an information tool for Clubs within the Association, keeping every member up to date with functions and members success stories. The Officers of this Association wish to promote a happy, healthy, family oriented newsletter.



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Visit your local Office Max for all your office supplies and printing needs.

The American Association of Sheriff Poses and Riding Clubs appreciates the help in printing the Rider's Round Up.



Rider's RoundUp is online:

www.aasprc.net

Reminder: Only printed copies are mailed to those that truly need them. Please contact the Riders Round Up Chair Stephani or Secretary Peggy to have your name removed from the mail out if you are able to receive by email or view on our website.

President * U.B. Herrington

Hello Everyone,

Everyone had a good time at Spring Roundup from the Barrel Race to the Playday. The trail ride was cancelled due to lack of participation. I would like to thank Wes for a job well done! I have a long list of people to thank for helping out from the concession stand, the barrel race, the playday, even some work on the grounds: the Moody's, the McCaig's, Don and Marie McEwen, The Brown's, especially Darrel for mowing, Parker for driving the tractor, the Jones' plus Raymond, the Cox's, the Niblett's, and especially those who worked out in the arena. If I have missed someone, I deeply apologize. I would like to congratulate Delaney De La Rosa and Wynd'lee Roberts for winning the saddles.

Playday Finals is just around the corner; make sure you get your forms to your district secretary so they can be sent into Peggy. Forms will be in the Riders Roundup for entries, rv's and stalls. We have changed up something at finals this year; we will have an executive board meeting on Tuesday night at 6:00 before the rules committee meeting. This was changed due to Father's day on Sunday so everyone could enjoy that day.

The work list and the running order of the events will be in the June Riders Roundup. I hope everyone has a great Mother's Day.

The officer's approved for the purchase of 6 picnic tables. They were put under the concession stand so more people can sit and eat during Association functions.

AASP&RC President
UB Herrington



Rockin H
Auction Company

U.B. Herrington: 940-577-0408
TX LIC#17003

279 Mesa Ridge
Decatur, TX 76234

Lisa Herrington: 214-226-6641
uholab@aol.com



Executive VP * Ronnie Elrod

Here in Lubbock one day we have summer like weather with 80 to 90 degree and the next day we have winter weather anywhere from 30 to hi 50 degree. This is what happening this week of April 22, 2013.

My thought and prayer goes out to the family of Tim Hurta for their lost. Tim was one of our pass V P and father of pass queen Robin Hurta.

I had the privilege of attending the changing of the reins of the Texas Tech Mask Rider, Congratulation to Corey Waggoner the new Mask Rider.

Spring round up was short on people but the ones that were there had great time. Thanks to Moody's family for all of the hard work, they did to have great Spring Roundup. "Big thanks Wes". Thanks all of the help we had in the concession stand and "mom" Maria for overseeing the concession stand. Once again, Parker a great job dragging "Thanks".

On a personal note, I like to thank the Mason Family for attending SR for the first time and helping in the arena, Allen work the tractor gate for Parker, Debbie, and Bella working in the arena.

Bella brought a pocket full of money home from the barrel race on Friday.

Mathew and little Miss E brought money home from the playday . My congratulation to the winners of the saddles the Jr saddle was won by Delaney DeLaRosa and the Sr saddle was won by WynnD' Lee Roberts.

With spring roundup over with playday Finals is just around the corner (June 12-15). Remember May 1st will be the opening day for stalls and camper hookups. I hope we have a big turnout for finals. The Ex Board meeting will be on Tuesday June 11, 2013 at 6:00 PM.

Mark your calendar for July 6, 2013 for a big barrel race that the association will be a big part of right now the barrel race has \$5000.00 added money and hope more to come. Watch for more information to come next month.

Until next
Happy Tails and God bless you
Ronnie Elrod Ex V P



Region 1 VP * Jackie Dunlap

Hello from Lubbock,

The Mother Nature is bi-polar it can't make up her mind if she wants to be Spring or stay Winter. I will be so happy when she gets back on her meds and gets the seasons correct. We are still praying for rain here.

I was unable to attend SRU this year. My nephew got married that weekend. I understand that there was a light crowd this year, just like the last couple of years. Region 1 did have representation, we had a family of newbies go and they had a blast. The Masons will be returning to the grounds for future activities.

We aren't too far away from PDF, I think it's less than 50 days away (at the time I'm writing this), I'm looking forward to getting to see friends and family that I don't get to see very often. It should be a fun week. I will have Miss Bella traveling with me. It should be interesting for both of us. I'm hoping she will be ready to help drive.

District 2 has a playday and a half this month. The March playday got called due to dirt blowing. Mother Nature is suppose to play nice tomorrow (4/27) but we shall see. I just hope everyone has their video cameras ready, I'm riding Crackhead. Sam Baeza won the 50/50 drawing at the District 2 playday. We are doing a drawing at every playday to help raise money for Region 1.

I'm still looking for a sponsor for the saddle and buckle for the stick horse barrel race at finals. If you know of someone or company that would like to get their name advertised please contact me and I will talk to them. If I don't find a sponsor we won't have the race.

Happy Riding,
Jackie Dunlap, Region 1 VP

Parade Chair * K.D. McGowan

Don't forget to send your parade info to me and always check your local calendar for parades. This month is Mother's Day, you can be the first to have a parade, it's ok if you're the only one in it.

K.D. McGowan
Parade Chair

Executive Board meeting on Tuesday night at 6:00 before the Rules Committee meeting

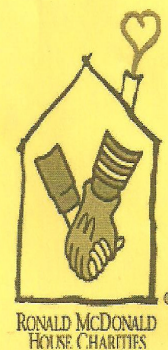
Come out & Support the

Lewisville Saddle Club
Charity Playday

Benefiting the

Ronald McDonald
House

Saturday, June 1, 2013
12 Noon

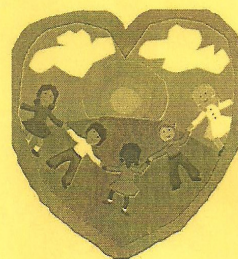


Events: Hitch N Go, Baseball, Poles & Barrels

Cost: \$4 per event

Live Auction - Full Concession on grounds

Arena located on Mill Street, Lewisville, TX





In Memory of Lorene



Supporting the AASP&RC

since 1962

Jack McClung

JIM BOWIE DAYS ASSOCIATION

would like to invite the AASP&RC and all member Riding Clubs to join us for the annual parade on June 29, 2013.

The parade has been changed to Saturday morning at 10:00AM due to concerns of the heat. We hope that moving the parade to a cooler time of the day will boost attendance. The AASP&RC has been a long time supporter of the Jim Bowie Days Celebration and we would like to see a large attendance from your Association. Parade applications may be downloaded at www.jimbowedays.org For more information, please contact David Rainey 940 841-0808. Parade Chair. Deadline is Tuesday, June 25th.

Equestrian 1st place Bowie knife & 2nd place plaque

PLAYDAY FINALS STALL AND RV

Please remember, do NOT send requests for stalls and RV spots postmarked PRIOR to May 1.

STALL spaces request:

Stalls Requested _____ @ \$25. for the week. Total \$ _____

(Note, the office will do its best to assign multiple stalls together, but the earlier you submit the request, the more likely we will be able to honor this convenience)

RV spaces request:

30 amp spaces @ \$15. per night. # Nights _____ Total \$ _____

50 amp spaces @ \$20. per night. # Nights _____ Total \$ _____

Space Preference 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____ 3rd Choice _____

(The 30 amp spaces are numbers #1-#60 and the 50 amp spaces are #61-#70. We cannot guarantee that the space you request will be available when your information arrives in the office. We will do our best to accommodate you.)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please mail registration form and check to:

AASP & RC
PO Box 423
Kempner, TX 76539

For office use only: Total amount pd \$ _____ Ck # _____

PayPal conf# _____ Date received _____

PLAYDAY FINALS REGISTRATION

Entry Form

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Region_____District_____Club_____

Riders_____@\$55.00 (all eight events@\$5 per event + \$15 registration fee) \$_____

#Non rider registration_____@ \$15.00 each \$_____

(Registration includes dinner on Friday night and one program per family)

Additional dinner/dance tickets_____@\$20.00 each \$_____

Additional programs_____@\$5.00 each \$_____

Rider's Name

Age as of January 1st

Class

1._____

2._____

3._____

4._____

5._____

6._____

Non-riding Registrations

1._____

2._____

3._____

Total Amount Due \$_____

All entry forms must be submitted through your District Secretary. If you have paid for your entry utilizing PayPal, the receipt for this payment must accompany your registration form.

CONVENTION 2013

HILTON GARDEN INN
4449 RIDGEMONT DR
ABILENE, TEXAS

IN MEMORY
OF
JACK
McCLUNG

*American
Association*



*Sheriff Posse
&
Riding Clubs*

FRIDAY

Hors
D'oeuvres
6:00 PM
General

SATURDAY

General Meeting
9:00 AM
Lunch
12:00 PM
Meeting Cont.
1:00 PM

OCTOBER 18 & 19

CALL NOW TO BOOK YOUR
ROOM 325-690-6432

Denton Round-Up Club

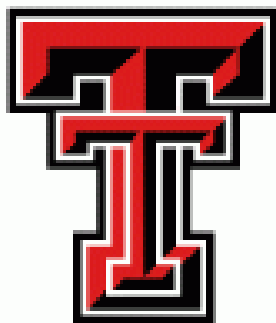
MAY 5TH	4TH POINT PLAYDAY	Queen Playday
MAY 19TH	5TH POINT PLAYDAY	
JUNE 7TH	6TH POINT PLAYDAY	Friday Night
JUNE 21ST	7TH POINT PLAYDAY	Friday Night
JUNE 28TH	RAIN DATE	
JULY 26TH	8TH POINT PLAYDAY	Friday Night
SEPTEMBER 15TH	9TH POINT PLAYDAY	
SEPTEMBER 29TH	10TH POINT PLAYDAY	
OCTOBER 6TH	11TH POINT PLAYDAY	

Brian Maxwell [214-354-3353](tel:214-354-3353)



Congratulations
Annette and Travis
Waggoner
Corey has done us proud

From the West Texas Extreme Riders



Lewisville Saddle Club Playday/Rodeo Agenda

5/4/2013	#5 LSC Point Playday	12 Noon	Flying W, Straight Barrels, Poles & Barrels
5/18/2013	#6 LSC Point Playday	12 Noon	Larryette, Pylon, Poles & Barrels
6/1/2013	Charity Playday - #7 LSC Point Playday	12 Noon	Hitch N Go, Baseball, Poles & Barrels
06-12-15-13	Playday Finals - Bowie		
6/29/2013	#8 LSC Point Playday	12 Noon	Flying W, Straight Barrels, Poles & Barrels
7/20/2013	#9 LSC Point Playday	6 p.m.	Larryette, Pylon, Poles & Barrels
8/10/2013	Workday	8 a.m.	
8/24/2013	Workday	8 a.m.	
8/30,31/ 13	#49th Annual Labor Day Rodeo		
9/1/2013	#49th Annual Labor Day Rodeo		
9/21/2013	#10 LSC Point Playday	6 p.m.	Hitch N Go, Baseball,Poles & Barrels
10/5/2013	#11 LSC Point Playday	12 Noon	Flying W, Straight Barrels, Poles & Barrels
10/12/2013	#12 LSC Point Playday	12 Noon	Larryette, Pylon, Poles & Barrels
11/2/2013	#13 LSC Point Playday	12 Noon	Hitch N Go, Baseball, Poles & Barrels
Academic School Year	Lewisville Rodeo Team	7:00 PM	Tuesdays during school year

West Texas Drifters

May 11

B.O. 5:00 ride at 6:00

July 14

B.O. 2:00 ride at 3:00

August 10

B.O. 5:00 ride at 6:00

September 14

B.O. 2:00 ride at 3:00

October 12

B.O. 2:00 ride at 3:00 this will be a costume playday



Mark it on your Calendar:
Jim Bowie Days- June 22nd
Check your local Parades

*Your Ad
Could Be Here
Wouldn't that be
Purrrr-fect*

See prices on the
2nd page
of this
Riders Roundup



PLEASANT GROVE COWBOY CHURCH RIDING CLUB

2013 PLAYDAY SCHEDULE

Our Church Is Currently In The Process Of Building An Arena, But In The Mean Time We Will Have Our Playdays @

Salt Creek Arena, 7204 S FM 51, Boyd TX 76023



Sign Up Starts @ 9:00 AM * Ride @ 10:00 AM
\$2/Event for Members * \$3/Event for Non-Members
\$2/Exhibition

PLAYDAY DATES:

February 2nd ~ Fun Playday

March 2nd

April 6th

May 5th ~ Ride @ 2:00 PM

June 1st

July 6th

August 3rd ~ Make Up Playday

September 7th

October 5th ~ Double Points/Double Pay

AGE GROUPS:

Classics

Super Seniors

Lead Line

Super PeeWees

PeeWees

Juniors

Intermediates

Seniors

Boys & Girls Ride Separate



BANQUET ~ DECEMBER 14th @ 6:00 PM

High Point Awards Given Daily to Juniors & Below
Must Ride 5 Out Of 7 Playdays To Qualify For Year End Awards



Cake Walk & Silent Auction Every Playday
PGCCRC Is A Proud Member Of The AASP&RC
& Follows All Association Rules



For All Other Information Contact:

Darrell Key ~ (214) 912-3379

Lisa Herrington ~ (214) 226-6641



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFF POSSES AND RIDING CLUBS
UB Herrington, President / Connie Ivins, Scholarship Chairperson

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

AWARD COMPONENTS:

Each year the AASP & RC will award two \$1,000 scholarships to any applicants who meet the award criteria.

AWARD CRITERIA:

- 1) Applicants must be a member of the AASP & RC for two consecutive years in which the award is received.
- 2) Applicants must submit the completed Biographical Questionnaire, two letters of reference from AASP & RC members and a one page essay on the question provided in the Questionnaire.
- 3) Scholarship recipients must provide proof of enrollment/registration at an accredited, post-secondary institution (two/four year college/university or vocational training program prior to receiving the scholarship award.
- 4) Applicants must mail all documents (application, two letters of reference and essay) with a postmark on or prior to July 31, 2013 to the Scholarship Chairperson: Connie Ivins
3236 Luzon Road
Irving, Texas 75060

Playday finals theme days!!

Prizes will be given daily for the best dressed individuals in Junior and Senior categories. (Junior is Juniors and down, Senior is Intermediates and up.) Everyone is urged to participate! Let's make finals even more fun!!

Wednesday 6/12:

CrAzy dAy!!

Wear all your crazy

Clothes and get a prize!

Thursday 6/13:

CAMO DAY!!!

Wear all the camo

You can find!!

Friday 6/14:

Let's show our

PINK OUT!!

Support and wear

Our pink!

Saturday 6/15:

NEON DAY!!

Break out those

Bright colors!!

SCRAPBOOK

Start now!

Get help!

Collect pictures after each event!

2013

?s

Call

Lori

Brock

325-

234-

7131

**For copy of Application
go to www.aasprc.net**



AASP&RC 1st Annual

"Save a Life - Ride a Horse"

**Playday and Jackpot Barrel Race
Benefitting FTW Cooks Children's
and Life Gift Organ Donation Centers Across TX**

July 6, 2013

Located in Bowie TX off of Jerry Walker Rd

2 large arenas. Playday held in one - Barrel Race in other.

Entry fees

- \$15 + New Teddy Bear - Playday

\$30 + New Teddy Bear - Jackpot Barrel / \$20.00 Sidepot (Youth/Adult/Senior)

\$35 + New Teddy Bear for both - Sidepots Separate

Pay at the event or Pre-register - no late fees

- but stalls and RV spaces are first come

RV Hook up- . Small -15/ Large -20 /night

Stalls \$15 for weekend

**Grand Entry and
Introductions
9:00 a.m.**

**Playday starts at 10:00
Sign ups 8:30-9:30**

Events

**Hitch N Go
Spur
Straight Away Barrels
Rodeo Flags**

Men/Women Mix for each class

**Highpoint and runner up in each
class**

AASP&RC rules and age class



\$5000.00 ADDED

Main Event - 4 D Jackpot Barrels

Equal Payout to Each Class

Exhibitions 12-4:30

\$3.00 from 12-4

\$4.00 from 4-4:30

Open Starts at 5:00p.m.

**WE are in the process of getting this "BBR"
APPROVED**

**Friday night dance (free)
Belt buckles for playday and 4D**

Concession Stand for Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Public Bathrooms ,Vendors stations, Silent Auctions

For Preregistration Contact - Wendy Vann - 817-360-1214

B J Parham - 817-253-3075

Lisa Herrington 214-226-6641



District 2

Hi from Bella District 2 Queen,

My family just got back from Spring Round up in Bowie along with Ronnie Elrod. We had a great time. I can't wait for Playday Finals.

The grounds are great, met some really nice folks and my horses were in heaven with the green grass!



Jackie Dunlap wasn't able to attend because her nephew got married. I heard she wore a dress.....haven't seen any pics yet. Congrats to her nephew Blake and his new wife Jessica.

We are praying for some rain here. We could really use it.

We are getting ready to have our second District playday 27th of this month. We will be finishing up events that were called at the last playday due to high winds. We have some people that just need to run S.A.B and barrels then we have some that need to run both plus baseball. I am one of the ones that owe three runs.

Weather should be nice this weekend. I will be selling 50/50 tickets. We are hoping to have a bigger turn out with the weather being nicer. We will be giving out high points for the last district and this district playday this Saturday. Our next District 2 meeting will be May 7th.

Till next time,

Bella Mason

District 2 Queen



Spring Round up



District 31

We finally had beautiful weather April 13 to have our first playday of the season. We had over 80+ riders and had a great time. Everyone is welcome to come out to our next playday May 11th sign up at 1PM and ride at 2PM.

Thank you to all that came to Spring Round Up and supported Wes. I wish more people would have participated, but those that did I believe had a good time. Playday finals will be here before we know it as well as "Save a Life-Ride a Horse" jackpot barrel race/playday in July.



The next time you're headed to the association grounds check out the new AASP&RC sign located on the back of the announcer stand closest to the road. The sign was donated by District 31 and was designed/created by Misty Martin.

District 31 Congratulates Corey Waggoner!



Named Texas Tech's 2013-2014 Masked Rider



Poor Boys Riding Club

Mineral Wells, TX

We have been blessed with rain and had to reschedule our April Playday. This did allow members to attend the Region III Buckle Playday at Salt Creek on April 6, 2013. Lindsey Kay Reichert brought home the Pee Wee class buckle. Junior Reichert was also on top and brought home the Super Senior Class buckle. Congratulations.



We hosted our April playday on the 13th of April. We had a nice group of people and they were pleased with their new halter and lead they won for Hi-Point in each class. Our Novice was Rhonda Comacho, Super Senior Women was Alice Holloway, Super Senior men was JR Holloway, Super Pee Wee Girl was Reece Cook, Super Pee Wee Boy was Eli Bridges, Peewee Girl was Reley Cook, Pee Wee Boy was Ethan Fretz, Junior Girl was Tara Hill Junior Boys was Trenton Frazier, Intermediate Women was Shelby Bontke Intermediate Boys was Lane Blue, Senior Women was Daisey Baird and Senior Men was Cutter Holloway. Congratulations

Our next playday will be May 4, 2013. Our events will be: Spur, Bowtie, Poles, Rodeo Flag and Barrels. Our fun event will be the Ribbon Race. We will sign up at 1pm and ride at 2pm. All our playdays are Open. Our arena is located at 1482 Old Millsap Road, Mineral Wells, and Texas 76067

Kadie Jo Dugan was determined to get the Golf ball. We will be seeing her at the Finals.

Poor Boy Riding Club will be supporting the "Theme Days" at the finals. Looking forward to the fun.



Poor Boys Riding Club 2013

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Insure With A Fellow Horseman



Congratulations
Corey Waggoner
from the



Riders Roundup





Twin Mountain Riding Club



Hello to everyone from Twin Mountain Riding Club,

I think that summer is going to come early here in West Texas.

We had our 2nd weekend of District Playdays April 6 and 7 here in San Angelo. The participants were down, but the weather was great. When we got there Sunday morning there was a good looking horse that was running down Paint Rock Road so several of us went and were able to catch it after several tries and determination. Come to find out the horse belonged to one of the AASP & RC Past Queens Ms. Jackie Bailey. It was great to see Jackie and "I called first call on the horse if no one claimed him". Just what we need is a young horse to ride.

Winners from the playday from our club were as follows:
04/06/1304/07/13

Elaine Lee	Jeane Orsak	Classic Women
Buster Jones	Buster Jones	Classic Men
Jeton Tumlinson	Jeton Tumlinson	Super Sr. Women
Jessie Brock	Jim Tumlinson	Super Sr. Men
	Tres Brock	Super Pee Wee Boy
Allison Vaughn	Makailey Brock	Pee Wee Girl
	Jamie Philipp	Jr. Girl
Brittney Jones	Brittney Jones	Intermediate Women

I want to thank everyone that came out and helped get the arena ready for the District Playday. Thanks to Freddie Shuster and all his help in the concession stand that was a big hit. I think the Root Beer Floats made the top of the list.

It takes all of our club members to make the club a great running organization and without each and every one of us it would not be possible to have TMRC.

This past weekend was the Spring Round up and we once again want to thank our own Region Vice President Buster Jones and his family for going and helping out. We have our club playday coming up this weekend and I think the weather is going to be nice or I hope so.

Birthdays for April are as follows: Chandra Brock, Shane Bullock, Ginny Shuster, and yours truly. I think I may be getting old or my body feels like it.

Words for this month are as follows:



A Father, a Daughter and a Dog-

"Watch out! You nearly broad sided that car!" My father yelled at me. "Can't you do anything right?" Those words hurt worse than blows. I turned my head toward the elderly man in the seat beside me, daring me to challenge him. A lump rose in my throat as I averted my eyes. I wasn't prepared for another battle. "I saw the car, Dad. Please don't yell at me when I'm driving." My voice was measured and steady, sounding far calmer than I really felt.

Dad glared at me, then turned away and settled back. At home I left Dad in front of the television and went outside to collect my thoughts..... dark, heavy clouds hung in the air with a promise of rain. The rumble of distant thunder seemed to echo my inner turmoil. What could I do about him?

Dad had been a lumberjack in Washington and Oregon. He had enjoyed being outdoors and had reveled in pitting his strength against the forces of nature. He had entered grueling lumberjack competitions, and had placed often. The shelves in his house were filled with trophies that attested to his prowess.

The years marched on relentlessly. The first time he couldn't lift a heavy log, he joked about it; but later that same day I saw him outside alone, straining to lift it.. He became irritable whenever anyone teased him about his advancing age, or when he couldn't do something he had done as a younger man.

Four days after his sixty-seventh birthday, he had a heart attack. An ambulance sped him to the hospital while a paramedic administered CPR to keep blood and oxygen flowing.

At the hospital, Dad was rushed into an operating room. He was lucky; he survived. But something inside Dad died. His zest for life was gone. He obstinately refused to follow doctor's orders. Suggestions and offers of help were turned aside with sarcasm and insults. The number of visitors thinned, then finally stopped altogether. Dad was left alone. My husband, Dick, and I asked Dad to come live with us on our small farm. We hoped the fresh air and rustic atmosphere would help him adjust.

Within a week after he moved in, I regretted the invitation. It seemed nothing was satisfactory. He criticized everything I did. I became frustrated and moody. Soon I was taking my pent-up anger out on Dick. We began to bicker and argue.

Alarmed, Dick sought out our pastor and explained the situation. The clergyman set up weekly counseling appointments for us. At the close of each session he prayed, asking God to soothe Dad's troubled mind. But the months wore on and God was silent. Something had to be done and it was up to me to do it.

The next day I sat down with the phone book and methodically called each of the mental health clinics listed in the Yellow Pages. I explained my problem to each of the sympathetic voices that answered in vain. Just when I was giving up hope, one of the voices suddenly exclaimed, "I just read something that might help you! Let me go get the article."

I listened as she read. The article described a remarkable study done at a nursing home. All of the patients were under treatment for chronic depression. Yet their attitudes had proved dramatically when they were given responsibility for a dog.

Continued.....

I drove to the animal shelter that afternoon.. After I filled out a questionnaire, a uniformed officer led me to the kennels. The odor of disinfectant stung my nostrils as I moved down the row of pens Each contained five to seven dogs. Long-haired dogs, curly-haired dogs, black dogs, spotted dogs all jumped up, trying to reach me. I studied each one but rejected one after the other for various reasons too big, too small, too much hair. As I neared the last pen a dog in the shadows of the far corner struggled to his feet, walked to the front of the run and sat down. It was a pointer, one of the dog world's aristocrats. But this was a caricature of the breed.

Years had etched his face and muzzle with shades of gray. His hip bones jutted out in lopsided triangles. But it was his eyes that caught and held my attention. Calm and clear, they beheld me unwaveringly.

I pointed to the dog. "Can you tell me about him?" The officer looked, then shook his head in puzzlement. "He's a funny one. Appeared out of nowhere and sat in front of the gate. We brought him in, figuring someone would be right down to claim him. That was two weeks ago and we've heard nothing. His time is up tomorrow." He gestured helplessly. As the words sank in I turned to the man in horror. "You mean you're > going to kill him?"

"Ma'am," he said gently, "that's our policy. We don't have room for every unclaimed dog." I looked at the pointer again. The calm brown eyes awaited my decision. "I'll take him," I said. I drove home with the dog on the front seat beside me. When I reached the house I honked the horn twice. I was helping my prize out of the car when Dad shuffled onto the front porch... "Ta-da! Look what I got for you, Dad !" I said excitedly. Dad looked, then wrinkled his face in disgust. "If I had wanted a dog I would have gotten one. And I would have picked out a better specimen than that bag of bones. Keep it! I don't want it" Dad waved his arm scornfully and turned back toward the house.

Anger rose inside me. It squeezed together my throat muscles and pounded into my temples. "You'd better get used to him, Dad. He's staying!" Dad ignored me. "Did you hear me, Dad ?" I screamed. At those words Dad whirled angrily, his hands clenched at his sides, his eyes narrowed and blazing with hate. We stood glaring at each other like duelists, when suddenly the pointer pulled free from my grasp. He wobbled toward my dad and sat down in front of him. Then slowly, carefully, he raised his paw. Dad's lower jaw trembled as he stared at the uplifted paw confusion replaced the anger in his eyes. The pointer waited patiently. Then Dad was on his knees hugging the animal. It was the beginning of a warm and intimate friendship.

Dad named the pointer Cheyenne. Together he and Cheyenne explored the community. They spent long hours walking down dusty lanes. They spent reflective moments on the banks of streams, angling for tasty trout.

They even started to attend Sunday services together, Dad sitting in a pew and Cheyenne lying quietly at his feet.

Dad and Cheyenne were inseparable throughout the next three years. Dad's bitterness faded, and he and Cheyenne made many friends. Then late one night I was startled to feel Cheyenne 's cold nose burrowing through our bed covers. He had never before come into our bedroom at night. I woke Dick, put on my robe and ran into my father's room. Dad lay in his bed, his face serene. But his spirit had left quietly sometime during the night. Two days later my shock and grief deepened when I discovered Cheyenne lying dead beside Dad's bed. I wrapped his still form in the rag rug he had slept on. As Dick and I buried him near a favorite fishing hole, I silently thanked the dog for the help he had given me in restoring Dad's peace of mind.

The morning of Dad's funeral dawned overcast and dreary. This day looks like the way I feel, I thought, as I walked down the aisle to the pews reserved for family. I was surprised to see the many friends Dad and Cheyenne had made filling the church. The pastor began his eulogy. It was a tribute to both Dad and the dog who had changed his life. And then the pastor turned to Hebrews 13:2. "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it."

"I've often thanked God for sending that angel," he said. For me, the past dropped into place, completing a puzzle that I had not seen before: the sympathetic voice that had just read the right article... Cheyenne 's unexpected appearance at the animal shelter ...his calm acceptance and complete devotion to my father. . and the proximity of their deaths. And suddenly I understood. I knew that God had answered my prayers after all.

Life is too short for drama or petty things, so laugh hard love truly and > forgive quickly. Live While You Are Alive. Forgive now those who made you cry. You might not get a second time.

God answers our prayers in His time.....not ours..

Until next time,
Jeton Tumlinson
Twin Mountain Riding Club



West Texas Drifters

Hi there from West Texas Drifters Princess Emily Paige.

We had our first playday of the year April 13th. We had a windy day, but managed to have a great playday.

I was allowed to ride my horse Jessie one last time before we retire her due to health issues. I am gonna miss her, but I know it is for her own good that I am having to do this.



Lexi is my new horse, we are working hard to become a great team like Jessie and I were.

Our club introduced royalty before the playday started and then sang happy birthday to two of our members. I think everyone that came out had a great time and left with a load of dirt on their faces. I know I did.

We just finished up a series of team sortings on the 20th of this month. We have had a successful turn out for these and we should have some more being planned. We, however, weren't able to make it. We were fortunate enough to make our first spring round up playday in Bowie.

I had a blast. People were super nice. We got to run in the barrel race Friday night. My sister got a check for 2nd in 4D. I made some friends while we were there. I've already asked my folks to go again. I was introduced for our club as royalty during the grand entrance along with my older sister Bella (Brooklyn).

The grounds are super nice. Ronnie Elrod was also there with us. That made it nice to have someone to be there if we needed help.

We will have our next playday May 11 with Books opening at 5:00 and rides at 6:00. Our next club meeting will be May 2nd at 7:30, home plate diner.

We have our next parade scheduled for July 4th in Abernathy. We decided to wear blue jeans with our uniform instead of black jeans because with summer the jeans gets so hot and horse hair sticks to them like a magnet! We are hoping to get more people out to ride in the parades.

We have a District 2 playday this Saturday April the 27th. We will finish off the leftover events from the last playday that was cancelled due to high winds and low visibility.

My mom learned a lesson too; while we were in Bowie...she has to make sure she puts down District 2 and not II. They thought we were District eleven which there isn't. I think she'll get it right next time.

Happy Riding till next time!

Emily Paige, West Texas Drifters princess



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