

the grateful road

Heidi Halcomb • Miracle Mountain Ranch • Spring Creek, PA



February 2015

Dear Supporters and Friends,

Shame on me for slacking off in my updates. Some of my new responsibilities keep me far more busy than I was last year, so it's harder to stay up on this. Here's an update on my happenings here at Miracle Mountain Ranch in Spring Creek, PA!

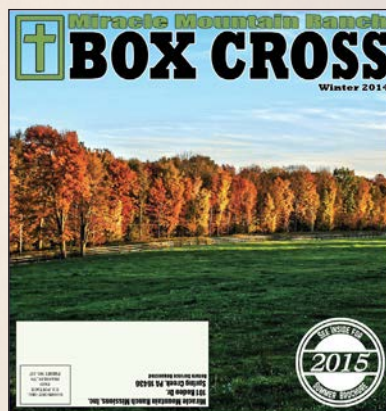
The holiday season found me on the road a lot. One of my dearest friends, Brianna Shaver, married Jeff Eshenour on December 13th in Minnesota and I was privileged to be a part of their wedding. I spent a week there, then traveled to the West Coast for Christmas with my family. After Christmas, we drove to Phoenix to see Dad's family, and I flew back to Pennsylvania from there. It was a whirlwind, but I just loved seeing my family and the many cousins who seem to keep multiplying every year. I was back to work for about a week, then hopped on a bus with some of the other Ranch staff and our 1st year students to attend a music conference at The Wilds camp in North Carolina. Always a fabulous experience!



Enjoying the "Tis the Season!"
Christmas Concert at Segerstrom Hall
with my sister, Liz.



Since I started into my expanded role as part of the MMR Media team, I have been learning so many new things. I have now finished two of our quarterly publications (called the Box Cross, pictured at right), which I oversee and design. (The PDF file of this can be found at mmrm.org/box-cross-newsletter.) It's a detail-oriented project, but it's given me the opportunity to learn Adobe InDesign, which is the program used at the professional level in print design. The Box Cross, along with some of the other design things we do in the Media department, has given me a small taste of the interest I have in graphic design. I'm still in the beginning stages of learning the craft, but it's one that I intend to pursue long-term. I'm so grateful for a workplace where I can learn skills like graphic design, marketing, and business strategy on the job. My boss, Donnie Rosie, and my co-worker, Andrew Smith, have been ready and patient teachers.



Awesome time spent with family. Love my cousins!

Due to changes in our staff this past fall, I was able to move into more permanent staff housing (as opposed to dorm-style housing). I now live in "The Girls' Trailer" with Kara, one of the girls who run the barn (pictured next to me in the staff picture on the back). I love Kara dearly and we have a grand time together! It's been fun for me to have a goldily, older sister figure so close at hand. Our house is right in the middle of main camp, so our living room is a revolving door between the other single staff and



The AZ/TX side of the family - 4 generations!



Main Street of our western town at the Ranch. Despite the length of the winter (as long as 7 months of snow), I really do enjoy the change of seasons. It's such a beautiful place to live and work!

Photo credit: MMR Media

the students in the School of Discipleship (mostly the girls) who come to hang out. It's been a great blessing to have a kitchen where I can do my own cooking and a living room to fellowship with people.

During this time of year, we are busy with various promo events and our winter/spring retreat season, which includes Jr. and Sr. Winter Camps, as well as SALT (Servant Attitude Leadership Training - our School of Discipleship preview week for high school students). Our Mexico Mission Trip is coming up at the end of March and I'm VERY excited for that. This will be my third trip with the Ranch to the mountain/canyon regions of Chihuahua, but this time I will be taking care of all the administration on the trip. Throughout the spring months, I will also be assisting with Ranch promo at a few homeschool conventions, as well. It's a busy season, but I love the opportunity to travel, meet new people, and get a break from the cold weather.

Perhaps the greatest blessing so far in my ministry here at the Ranch has materialized just in the last few weeks... After saving, searching, raising support, and asking lots of questions, I've finally been able to purchase a vehicle of my very own!! I bought a 2004 Nissan XTerra, which is a sturdy 4x4 vehicle for the snowy/icy/muddy roads up here. The challenge for me wasn't necessarily in saving money to buy the car, but in raising monthly support to sustain the expenses.

I was doubtful, but I kept it in prayer, and the Lord was faithful. Many of you upped your monthly support without even being asked, and others came out of the woodwork to jump on board. A local Christian used car dealership owner has committed to selling vehicles to the Ranch staff at cost and he was diligent to get me a great deal on the XTerra. To say that this experience has been humbling would be very much an understatement. THANK YOU SO MUCH!! It really is wonderful to have a vehicle! :)



My very own wheels!



The Shaver/Eshenour wedding in December

our website at MMRM.org or find us on Facebook. To see the Staff Bio page on our website, visit MMRM.org/about/staff (my bio is under the Junior Staff tab).

If I have not already said it enough times, thank you for the way each and every one of you enthusiastically stand behind me as I serve in full-time ministry at Miracle Mountain Ranch. I couldn't do what I do without you.

In Christ and for His glory,

Heidi

If you don't already have an understanding of our ministry here at Miracle Mountain Ranch, visit



Miracle Mountain Ranch permanent staff

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