

## August News

Dear Ropers,

The summer is sure leaving us faster than I would like. However, the monsoons finally arrived and the rain has been especially welcome. Grass is turning green but I'm just not sure how much grass will actually grow before the growing season ends and harvest begins. We will take what we can get.

We have produced lots of roping action since our last update. We have had four events and have awarded over \$78,000 in cash and prizes! Team counts have been steady but there are still signs of a weak economy when it comes to discretionary spending. We certainly appreciate you choosing to rope at our events.

On July 30<sup>th</sup> we hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Benefit Roping. We had good participation for an even greater cause. We were able to raise much needed funds to donate to St. Jude's as they continue their quest in providing services to children in need. The next day we hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Church on the Trail Trailer Roping. This was another good event with great participation. As many of you know, Team Roping is my passion. When I say that, I mean all aspects. Foremost, I love to rope, I love to produce ropings and I can watch team roping all day.! Well, I was fortunate enough to win the Saddle as the High Point Roper of the day. I won the roping with a 13 year old boy and won 5<sup>th</sup> with a 13 year old girl. So I decided that since they helped me win the saddle, I would just donate it back and let the two kids have a 3 head match roping for it. They each chose a partner and away we went. Brianna Parker actually roped all her steers but had partner trouble. Javen Gallegos caught just enough steers to be the winner. It was his first saddle win ever which made it much more gratifying to me. More notable was the Church service with Corey Ross of Cowboy Ministries. Numerous individuals gave their life to the Lord and received salvation. That is what this event is about. The roping is just extra fun...

On August 20<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> we drove up to Penrose Colorado to produce the rescheduled World Series Qualifier. We had a decent turnout despite the rescheduling and venue change. However, that didn't have an effect on the production effort as the staff and crew from the Crossroads Arena and our cattle contractor Gordon Cattle Co. did a great job for us. Ropers were pleased with the payouts. The biggest check was awarded in the #10 division. Over \$7488 went to Miles Bond and Larry Klinger.

Finally, on August 27<sup>th</sup> we produced the first ever Las Vegas \$5000. Just over 200 teams competed for some great prizes and lots of cash. In the #5 and under Saddle Roping the average winners were Grattney Wooten and Tony Elizondo. Tony won first and second and was the Saddle winner. Richard Martinez won second and third so he tied for the runner up Buckle with Grattney. Grattney won the Buckle and Richard won a Wrangler Jean Certificate. The featured event of the day was the Las Vegas \$5000! We had a good turnout despite the fact that all our Santa Fe ropers had an emergency fundraiser and could not attend. With a little input from the ropers this looks like a format that could catch on quickly. The man of the hour was Gabe Trujillo. Gabe had the first, second and third callbacks and put them to good use winning first, second and third in the average! He won \$6250 and a really nice Breast Collar. Congratulations Gabe!

Well, we have a couple of weeks off then we will be in Santa Fe, NM for a World Series Qualifier on September 17th-18<sup>th</sup>.

We would like to invite all ropers to come and rope with us and we would like to especially thank those of you who have been attending our events.

Until next month, Good Luck and go get the Money!!!