



SUMMER NEWS FROM THE MILLER FAMILY ☆ JULY 1, 2017

DEAR FRIENDS

The 2016/2017 season stands out as one to remember. Charley experienced a riding accident on December 20, 2016. The barn crew of Dave, Hunter, Jim, Cory and Clara did everything right at the scene, he was helicoptered to Tucson, and had two surgeries within the first 24 hours. He returned to the ranch March 10 and has continued daily physical therapy since then. The medical professionals said that recovery from a traumatic injury requires a trio of good luck, great support, and hard work — all three have been present! The true colors of the Elkhorn family are dazzling. The generosity and love have been remarkable — cards, visits, phone calls, gifts, empathy, understanding, and hope. We live in a state of gratitude.

An outstanding ranch crew gave Charley and Mary the gift of focusing entirely on his recovery. Now they're off on summer adventures, all in beautiful places! Cara and Hailey each traveled to Vietnam, though not together — they get the extreme travel prize! Jaimie returned to her tour-guiding work in Alaska. Tara and her sweet dog Lucy were job hunting early in the summer, and we hope they've found a perfect spot. John's traveling in Colorado. Kyra summers in North Dakota. Jim's at the Rimrock Ranch and Hunter the CM Ranch, both in Wyoming; Cory's in Moab, Utah; and David is up at the Elkhorn Ranch in Montana. We'll have an extra strong summer crew on hand, but each will take some well deserved time off! Bayley and Jerome will pack up the dogs for a western road trip late summer. Diane was home with family for her May birthday and Mother's Day. Craig and Grace will camp in Colorado and venture to Guatemala. Ben is back at Elkhorn to help Charley with cowboy work.



NEWS FROM THE NURSERY

The ranch brood mares provided quite a show in April. The first foal, born out on the desert, was spotted at the Lower Corral by guests returning from the Desert Museum. Soon after, we brought them up to the roping arena by “Zuni” where Bayley and Jerome live - a great spot from which to keep an eye on goings-on in the nursery. Every few days another foal arrived, and by the end of the season four were on the ground - then one more in May, with two to go. These early foals were sired by What a Dude,-and will have “C” names; and latecomers will be Playboy’s first foals with “A” names.



RANCH AND FAMILY NEWS

A silver lining of Charley’s accident was that our family spent quality time together, as the rehabilitation hospital was a block away from Jan’s home. Linda and Dick were in Tucson for the winter and helped out daily. Charley spent more time with his brother Don than he had since their high school days. Tom and Anne kept the ranch ship sailing and look forward to summer trips to San Diego and Victoria, BC.

We all enjoyed our traditional early May “family weekend” in Tucson! Visit www.caringbridge.org/visit/charleymiller to hear of news of Charley’s recovery.



DUDE RANCH HISTORY



Elkhorn raised DRA scholars James Burton and Clara Miller.

Elkhorn Ranch is a proud member of the Dude Ranchers’ Association (DRA) and it’s new sister organization the Dude Ranch Foundation. Charley and Tom’s grandparents, Grace and Ernest, helped found the DRA. In those days, they traveled east to meet friends and worked with the railroads to lure people west via train travel. The foundation celebrates and archives history at its Heritage Center museum in Cody, Wyoming and awards scholarships. Learn more at www.duderanchhistory.org.



Alicia and Clara, headed for age 18 and 20 respectively, are out in the world! Alicia will attend Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington in the fall. She graduated from Flowing Wells HS and enjoyed a senior year school trip to Spain. She graduated from the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum Junior Docent program having contributed over 500 volunteer hours. Clara completed sophomore year at University of Arizona and is the president of the student chapter of the Society for Range Management, Tierra Seca.

Professors chose her as the first recipient of a new range management scholarship, and we’re proud that she’s a Farm Bureau and Dude Ranch Association scholar. This summer she will take summer school chemistry and work at the ranch.



FIND THE PERFECT DATES

For a sunny Arizona visit whether it be an adult oriented time or a family week. Celebrate with old and new friends and multiple generations during holiday and school vacation weeks. Workshop weeks add creative flair and camaraderie to your week, at no extra charge.

Thanksgiving | Nov 19 - 26, 2017

Celebrate with family outdoors.

Winter Quiet | Nov 26 - Dec 17, 2017

Give yourself a gift between the holiday seasons.

Holiday | Dec 20 (or earlier) - 27, 2017

Join our family for holiday cheer.

New Years | Dec 27 - Jan 7, 2018

Extended holiday special pricing — Jan 3-7, 2018.



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Old Time Music | Jan 7 - 14, 2018

Ride by day and make music by night.

Photography | Jan 21 - 28, 2018

Enjoy creative camaraderie!

Western Artist In Residence | April 1 - 8, 2018

School Holidays | Scattered Feb through April

Check your school calendar as family friendly weeks fill quickly!



Wide open Altar Valley country is critical to our ranching operation and we never take it for granted. Supporting the Altar Valley Conservation Alliance (AVCA) is our way of expressing that gratitude. This past year AVCA provided restoration training

workshops, accomplished a prescribed fire in partnership with the Bueno Aires National Wildlife Refuge, launched its own Geographic Information System/mapping project, and continued to convene dozens of landowners and partner organizations to work together on watershed conservation projects. In Tucson at University of Arizona, Clara has begun to meet many Altar Valley partners as guest speakers in her natural resource management classes, and her professors bring the students out to the Altar Valley for experiential field based learning. Elkhorn guests' generosity has fueled the AVCA fire for over 20 years now and the support of this fan club does not go unnoticed locally!



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PLEASE JOIN US DURING OUR 72ND SEASON!



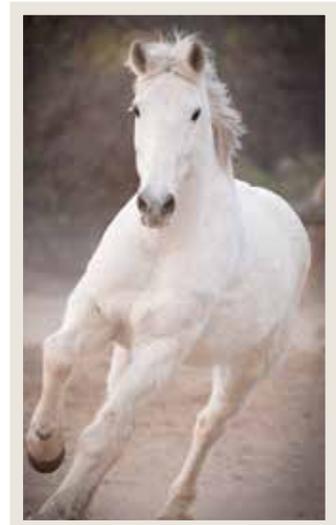
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WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU

To arrange a visit! The 2017/18 season rates and a registration form are enclosed or find them at www.elkhornranch.com/reservations. Remember that Sunday is the horses' day off and the usual arrival and departure day. We strongly encourage week (6 or 7 nights) or longer stays, and the minimum length of stay remains 4 nights. Kids of all ages are welcome, but must be 6 to ride; there is a 250 pound weight limit for all riders; and all riders must wear smooth sole boots with a heel and no laces (lots available to borrow). Look for travel and packing tips at www.elkhornranch.com. We are happy to provide for dietary preferences, celebration cakes, and other requests with advance notice. Be in touch any time by phone or by email to office@elkhornranch.com or mary@elkhornranch.com.

TO CONFIRM YOUR RESERVATION

Please send a registration form and a 25% deposit. Payment by check is preferred, or we accept VISA or MC credit cards. A prompt response helps assure your desired dates and cabin. If you must cancel or change dates, please let us know promptly so that we may open space to others. We will refund your deposit if we can fill the opening. Beginning next season, we will not offer the 2% cash/check discount — and you'll see a modest 2% rate increase.



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YOU ARE THE HEART OF THE ELKHORN BRAND OF FRIENDSHIP!



WITH LOVE, ALL THE MILLERS AND ELKHORN CREW

PLEASE SEND YOUR DEPOSIT BY
AUGUST 1ST for fall 2017 and holiday reservations
SEPTEMBER 1ST for arrival dates
after **JANUARY 1, 2018**



Keep in touch and spread the word

