THE CRITICAL MIX







Hello Campers!

It's been a quiet winter at the ranch, but it's been warming up and I've been busy getting camp ready for your arrival. Just a few reminders about what's new this summer. Remember that your first week of camp is \$535 but each additional week you attend is only \$400. That's a great discount! Also, don't forget about our You Tube Video Contest. More details on this later in the newsletter, but you could win some fantastic prizes! The sessions are filling up quickly, so if you haven't registered yet, make sure to do so soon. If you're at least 18 and looking for a rewarding summer job where you play as hard as you work, then Circle R Ranch is just what you've been looking for! Find an application for employment on our website. I can't wait to see all of you, and neither can the horses. See you soon! God Bless You All, Jack McCoy

Pics of the place we love!











Cicle Rench Campers in the Spottight

CASEY MCNEELY, 14



Hey to all my Outer Girls! This was my second summer, third week at Circle R Ranch. I rode Jupiter, and last summer I rode Renegade. This summer was the best! I met so many new people! It was a pretty amazing two weeks if you ask me. Being police officers in Panic, getting ready for dance night, and show day. By the end of the weeks we became family! Camp Out is one of my favs, but nothing can compare to Dance Night where you just dance like there's no tomorrow. I love how everyone can just be themselves without being judged. I was nervous about coming back a little bit because last year I came on a week when there were fewer campers, but when I walked into the dorm the first week all the girls were super nice! I love coming back to see everyone I met from summers in the past. I'm excited to see you all next summer! I \cup CRR!

SARAH JOHANSON, 17

I've been going to Circle R Ranch for the past four years. I've ridden Pherdi, Tex, Moon, and Apple. My favorite Circle R moments have been Lake Day, Improv Night, Panic, and Dance Night... Just everything! Also, being able to do Drill and Barrel Racing my last year at camp. This summer is going to be so different without Circle R since I will be to old to be a camper this summer. But I know for sure that one summer I'll come back and be a JC or maybe a counselor because I can't stay away! Circle R has definitely been one of the best things that has ever happened to me. It's one of the only places where I can't wait to go and don't want to leave. I will never forget all of the counselors, campers, and horses that I've met along the way. It's one of the few places where I feel accepted and loved by everyone. We are not just campers and counselors at Circle R, we are a family, and I will never forget any of you! Also, Miss Hannah Anderson, you never gave me your address at the end of camp and I really want to talk to you! You can find me on facebook where I'm a member of the Circle R Ranch Trail Mix Group!



Gircle R Ranch You Tube Video Contest

Prizes

Grand Prize: \$1000 & Free Week at Circle R Ranch

1st Runner Up: \$800 & Free Week at Circle R Ranch

2nd Runner Up: \$500 & Free Week at Circle R Ranch

3rd - 5th Runner Up: Free Week at Circle R Ranch

What to do:

- 1) Create a video about Circle R Ranch. You can conduct interviews with campers and staff, you can put together a picture montage with music, anything you want. You can use content from 2010, 2011, and 2012. The sky is the limit so be creative!
- 2) You must display "Circle R Ranch, Long Prairie, MN" and "www.circleRranch" in your video at least once.
- 3) Post your video on You Tube.
- 4) Send your name, age, phone number, and a LINK TO YOUR VIDEO to: CRRnews@circleRranch.com
- 5) All entries must be submitted by September 30, 2012. Judging will be based on quality of video, content of video, and the number of times your video is viewed, so make sure to tell your friends to check it out!
- 6) The winners will be announced in the 2013 brochure and the top three videos will be displayed on our website. ***This contest is open to all Circle R Ranch campers registered for 2012 and parents can help with the video!

Disclaimer: If Circle R Ranch feels that your video is inappropriate in any way, we will ask you to edit your video. It is assumed that you agree to this condition upon entering the contest and will do so if asked.





RIDING DIRECTOR



Hi Campers! I'm Charlie and this is will be my second summer as Riding Director at Circle R Ranch. Before becoming Riding Director I was the Equine Health Supervisor, a Junior Counselor, and a Camper just like you! I am originally from Coon Rapids, but I feel like I grew up at Circle R Ranch.

Last fall I moved to Fargo and have been training rescue horses and dogs while continuing my education in Equine Science. Of course I brought Gerty, the puppy (now dog) that I adopted from Circle R Ranch, with me. It's like having a piece of the Ranch with me everyday! North Dakota is great, but nothing beats the fun we have together at Circle R Ranch, and I can't wait for the summer and fun to begin!

I recently found out that I am going be a Godmother and it's been the highlight of my winter. I can't wait to welcome my Godson, Kelan, into the world this June! This summer is going to be filled with blessings and I get to enjoy them all with you! The ponies, counselors, and I are waiting for you, so get ready to for some awesome rides and a fabulous summer! See you soon!







What do you think makes CRR so special?

This question has a never ending list of answers! What makes it so special for me are the lifelong friends we make in the time span of a week, enjoying the scenic trail rides, reminiscing about the past, the inviting atmoshpere, the campers, the staff, and of course the horses!

What do you think makes a great counselor?

I believe that having a big imagination and a great sense of humor, while at the same time having a sense of order makes a great counselor. Also, being able to make each camper feel special by relating to them in different ways is really important!

Is there a campfire song that you are most looking forward to singing this summer?

Every camp song has a story behind it and come camp out night I'll be on the edge of my seat waiting to sing each and every one! The song I can't wait to sing the most if definitely "Linger". I enjoy this song because the counselors invite all the eldest campers to come stand around the campfire, join hands, and sing along. When I was a camper, I coudn't wait for my turn!

What is your favorite activity at CRR?

Aside from horseback riding, my favorite activity would be Dance Night, held on the last night at camp. This is the time for everyone to celebrate the wonderful week they just experienced. Also, you will never be judged at CRR and at Dance Night, everyone has a free pass to dance like a crazy person!

THE TOP 10...

REASONS TO GO TO CIRCLE R RANCH

Submitted by Sarah Johanson

- 10. Only camp on earth with a girl pony named Yu-gi-oh!
- 9. Spaghetti wars, nuff said.
- 8. You never know what day of the week it is for you're having too much fun.
- 7. Improv Night
- 6. You always smell horses.
- 5. Camping away from camp at Camp Out.
- 4. Wagon rides to the lake.
- 3. Those one of a kind campfire songs.
- 2. Friendships for life.
- 1. When it's time to go, you don't want to leave.

THINGS I WOULD HAVE MISSED

Submitted by Jamie Redmond

- 10. That 15 mile drive down Hwy 27 that never seems to end.
- 9. Memorizing every Garth Brooks song word for word.
- 8. Having jeans and shirts permanently stained with dirt, but absolutely loving it!
- 7. Making a list of horses you want months before you even go to camp.
- 6. Learning that it's okay to act like a fool in public.
- 5. The trail rides and all of the memories that come from them.
- 4. Dancing on Friday night and not caring how you look.
- 3. The beauty of the morning when the fog rolls in and the horses come into the corral.
- 2. The people you meet that you now consider family.
- 1. That feeling you get when you step out of your car at CRR and think, "I'm home."

FAVORITE MEMORIES OF 2011

Submitted by Aimee Heffernan

- 10. Going to LF in the wagons and watching the locals dance to us singing Disney songs at the gas station.
- 9. New water slide at the pool.
- 8. Band night in the bumper boat pond.
- 7. Storm gazing.
- 6. Days spent at the lake.
- 5. Putting every single one of the tables in the bunk house on the deck.
- 4. Rides in the main pasture.
- 3. Pulling the best prank never to be seen. (HH)
- 2. Being apart of a huge, amazing drill put on by group Narwhals
- 1. Just being home again at CRR.

REASONS TO LOVE CIRCLE R RANCH

Submitted by Kelsey Daugherty

- 10. Dance Night. Go crazy, be yourself! You will be recognized and appreciated. :)
- 9. Making even the simplest bracelet in the Arts and Crafts shed can make even your hardest day better one back at home. Every bead pretty much tells its own story.
- 8. Each summer, the list of horses you have memorized grows by at least 30.
- 7. Going to the "Happy Barn" at camp out and having the best time of your life!
- 6. The atmosphere is always welcoming.
- 5. Once home, you can relate ANYTHING to a Circle R story.
- 4. No matter how many times you go through it, singing at camp out will always make you cry because you're sad the week is coming to an end.
- 3. The sunrise looking over the pasture.
- 2. You have the ablility to develop a close relationship with each individual there... even the horses.
- 1. Driving down highway 27 seems to take forever, but once it's over you know it was worth the wait!

THE TRAIL MIX PHOTO CALLERY































































