

February 2010

I've been learning about sharing lately. It's a hard lesson for me. Do you have trouble with that lesson, too? My sharing lesson involves treats. One day Pam Walton brought us some Joy Ranch garden carrots that had been dug last fall. I saw the other horses gathering around the treats. Sniffing them they smelled sweet. I took one to try it. Wow! Was it ever good! My teeth are now strong enough to crunch the carrot and hold it in my mouth. After the first bite I shoved my way through the crowd and stood over the carrots until I'd eaten my fill; not letting any of the other horses have any until I was done. My mom wasn't happy with me. She said I needed to learn about being polite, waiting my turn instead of muscling my way in and making sure that there's enough for everyone. Learning to share is important. It helps us show others we care about them and don't just think about ourselves. Pam says that showing love to others mirrors in a small way God's love for us. He loves all people more than we can ever imagine.

February contains a special day for sharing and showing love and concern: Valentine's Day. Pam says it's a day that people of all ages enjoy. Adults give treats to their sweethearts and children exchange Valentine cards and sometimes candy with their classmates. It sounds like a wonderful day. I need to think of a special treat for my friends Sarah and Whiskers.

Some exciting things have been happening at Joy Ranch lately. The outside of the Welcome Center is finished and work is progressing on the interior. It's the first building people come to when they drive into Joy Ranch. Soon Pam will have a special place to meet people when they arrive. Also, the carpenters have started building the walls on the west side of Main Street. Joy Ranch is really taking shape. You can see some construction pictures on the Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota web site on the Joy Ranch page. Joy Ranch is a special place to share God's love with others.

I've gotten a couple of nice letters from different Sunday Schools. You may read them on our web site. When you get a chance I'd love to hear from you too.

Until next month.

Your friend,

Sven



Joy Ranch Welcome Center