

# WolfStone Ranch

31 January 2017

Dear Friends,

Again, I'd like to give you a "snapshot" of my accomplishments for January (*as I did for September through December of last year*). This outline is not meant to take the place of one of my lengthy and detailed (*but hopefully entertaining*) newsletters! I include the personal stuff, so you can see what else has taken me time and effort, which has meant less of both for **WolfStone Ranch** business....

## WolfStone Ranch

Rescued **Saskia** (1-year-old kitten) who was dumped on New Year's Eve in one of my former housecleaning client's rural cul-de-sac. Rescuing an animal on New Year's Day is a first for **WolfStone Ranch**... the rescue season has started very early this year!

Rescued **Koty** (8-year-old shepherd mix) from the St. Charles Animal Control, the shelter who had taken **Denali** from me last summer... turn-about is fair play!

Ran up to Rescue Food Bank (*trip to St. Louis to pick up dog and cat food available only to nonprofit rescues like us... it's not free, but it is only 10-cents per pound!*)

Spent a "day" (*the four hours between morning and afternoon chores*) on cell phone and computer issues regarding downloading and organizing photos (*history of animals and projects at WolfStone Ranch*)

Adopted out **Saskia** (renamed **Sabrina**)... after getting her tested, spayed, dewormed and treated for fleas, of course!

Finally was able to live-trap the stray cat (*a small orange tiger I've named **Raji***) who's been hanging around here, off and on, since last November! I was so relieved to discover, with her return this month, that she had not been eaten by a coyote, as I had feared! While still in the trap, I took her to our veterinarian, but she was too

freaked out to test... or to see if she's pregnant (*because she looks like it to me*)... Thank goodness, our Quarantine Pen is both cat AND kitten-proof!

The good news is... the **NEW BARN ROOF** was installed and it's a "thang" of beauty! No more re-tarring the ancient, rusted, corroded corrugated metal roof... that constantly leaked, anyway! No more worrying about the cat barn central heater/air-conditioner getting destroyed by a leaking roof!

The bad news is... some portions of the barn foundation have settled, making the fascia boards too crooked to mount gutters on. The fascia are all rotten anyway, so now I'm on a search for a carpenter to replace the fascia... and deal with the sinking foundation! ☹️

Had to deal with one ice storm, which always complicates the animal care... Winter weather always makes animal care more difficult and time-consuming, even without ice or snow.

Long story short, the two volunteers I'd accepted last September from SEMO Behavioral Health turned out to be way more trouble than they were worth. One quit after two weeks, just before I "fired" him... and good riddance! However... the other had a heart of gold and a gift for working with dogs, but he also had mental and physical health issues that prevented him from being the kind of help he so wanted to be. As it turned out I ended up struggling to help HIM try to find a job, as well as try to qualify for disability. This took me quite a bit of time in December and early January. I finally had to let him go, but with prayers for his wellbeing!

Somehow... in spite of everything else that was going on this month... I still managed to finalize my **COMMUNITY-BUILDING EXPERIENCE GROUP PRESENTATION**... Hip hip hooray!! A ten-ton weight just got lifted off of my weary shoulders... 😊

## Personal

With all that was going on with WolfStone Ranch, it's a darned good thing that I didn't have any personal issues this month!

Namaste,

Jessica