

## BULL CREEK COWBOY CHURCH

By Deb McMerrell

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Living for the one who branded us....JESUS!!!!

Whew! What a weekend at B3C! There were just too many activities going on to choose from. Lots of folks had lots of fun and still made it church Sunday morning!

At the last minute Sunday morning we found out that Pastor Mike was sick, too sick to make it for services. Lay Pastor Chan Peters was willing to fill in for him and did a fantastic job. He's the band leader too, so the band added a few songs to the music service which had the congregation on their feet with praises, then Chan brought an inspiring message of hope for us all.

“Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.” James 1:12 (NIV)

Several of us ladies (myself included) went to the Cowgirls of Faith conference in Athens Friday evening and Saturday. There were over 650 ladies of all ages there from all over. It was amazing!! We heard some wonderful speakers and music and just had a blessed time being together, praising the Lord and doing a little shopping and fun stuff too. And by the way our friend Lynda Ferguson and Sandra from Ridin' High won the talent show competition Friday evening with their performance by “The Dudds”.

Then around 50 folks bought tickets for the PBR performance in Dallas Saturday evening. (I went there too) We went to the family fellowship time at 4:30 which was something new they were trying to see what kind of turnout they would have for it. They had a little room reserved and thought they would have 50 people or so. Well, they were quite surprised when the room was packed with at least 200 or more. This is an outreach program where several of the riders give their testimonies, meet folks and sign some autographs. It was great! Then on the performance by the bullriders and bullfighters. It was a lot of fun and I'm sure more will want to go next year.

Saturday morning B3C's Christian Sportsmen guys had 49 teams sign in for the big predator hunt, then at 2:00pm the hunt was on! At 9:00am Sunday morning there was a big blur of camo clothes, tired faces and lots of dead critters at Bull Creek. That's probably not what folks visiting for the first time expected to see! Oh well, this is the country! There were 77 coyotes and 27 bobcats brought in. First place went to Keith Oakes and Kenneth Wiley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Oliver Mowat and Mark Haney, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mark Greer and Steven Tally, 4<sup>th</sup> Jim Shaffer, Josh Ross and Mike McWellen, and 5<sup>th</sup> Cy Hurst and Dustin Davis. The big dog prize went to Paul Fiddler, DD Daniel and Dub Sewell, little dog was Mark Greer and Steven Tally, Big cat was Bobby Subin and James Hill and little cat was Charles Martin, Jeremy Martin and Charles Martin III. They all reported a great time of good clean fun and Christian fellowship. Watch this article for dates on when the archery shoots will begin—probably the end of March.

Don't forget Randy Byrd will be speaking at Celebrate Recovery on Friday night at 7:00. He is an amazing speaker if you've never heard him. Plan to attend and hear his music, his story and then enjoy a stew supper and dessert with us.

Saturday is the couples seminar at Bull Creek which should be a great way to enrich your relationship or help you out if you're having struggles. Breakfast is at 8:30am and the workshop starts at 9:00. Lunch will be catered and snacks provided.

Soon to follow will be a church wide campaign and the starting up of the Bible study that goes along with the movie “Fireproof”. We will be having a “Movie Night” with popcorn and the whole nine yards at the

church and have all the small group Bible study materials ready to hand out.

The Valentines banquet will be on Saturday, Feb. 14 so mark your calendars, get your tickets and plan to be there for a night of fun and fellowship.

Well, that's about all the news I have for this week. I think that's enough! Come and join us sometime. We welcome you any time. There's always someone to greet you and someone to talk to if you need that. Remember, every crisis in life can make you better or bitter. It's your choice. Let's work on making it better! Happy Trails!!