



days at
Dunrovin

January 2019



**Ranch
Talk**



The Latest Gossip From Dunrovin Ranch

G3 Builds River Webcam Tower and Feeds Animals During January



G3! Who the heck is G3 and what kind of a name is that? OK, so that's not his real name, but that is what he goes by at Dunrovin Ranch.

Last fall Dunrovin Ranch put out the word that we needed a strong young handy man to work part time during the winter in exchange for lodging in one of our apartments. We have done this every year during the off season to give our ranch manager the freedom to "get out of Dodge" and enjoy some warm weather for some much needed R&R. This year we really scored when James Garland showed up to inquire about the situation.

James is one very talented guy, with tons of energy, creativity, and enthusiasm; plus it was clear from the get-go that he was an animal lover who would take good care of our herd. An artist, a welder, and a builder, he were looking for a place that he, his wife, and young daughter could call home for a few months while he finished building their small house about 15 miles south of Dunrovin.

With little fanfare, he and his family moved in. The only problem is that we already had a James working at the ranch. James Wasem is our high tech guru who takes care of all our web cameras, computers, and broadcasters. So we asked James Garland if he had a nick name we could use and he said, "Just call me G3. I have a III after my name since I come from a long line of James Garlands."

The original Dunrovin James was more than delighted to meet G3. James was making plans to install a web camera down at the Bitterroot River and needed to build a 15 foot tower to cantilever the camera over the river. Enter G3 just in time! The two Jameses worked together to draft a plan, G3 built the tower in his shop and got the footings dug and cemented just in time for the snows of Christmas to fall. Thanks to James the tech guru and G3 for getting the web camera and microphone down at the Bitterroot River for all of us to enjoy.

Look for G3 on the webcams during January working around the barn and in the pasture to feed the animals. They love him!



Horsing Around — The Word from the Herd



Smokey in Winter

The snow on Smokey's back clearly indicates that little heat was escaping his body on this cold winter's day. Smokey lived at Dunrovin Ranch for many years. Sadly, he died last year. What a beautiful and kind horse he was. We miss him greatly.

People sometimes worry when they see horses standing out in winter's cold weather. However, horses are built for almost any weather. Their long winter hair coats trap the warm air from their skin. The best way to help a horse stay warm is to ensure that it has plenty of low-quality forage. Eating hay with lots of fiber and moisture keeps their digestive tracks constantly working and generating heat. They also need continual access to ice-free water.

Horses are social and "flight" prey animals with large lungs to supply them with oxygen while running. They are susceptible to respiratory diseases associated with stagnant air. Horses are thus best kept as a herd together outside rather than individually stalled within enclosed barns. Even in the cold of winter!

Canine Corner — Kola's Accident!

The little tan and white dog you often see on the web cams is named Kola. He belongs to SuzAnne Miller who owns Dunrovin Ranch. Well, actually, she belongs to him! No one owns him.

He's a Jack Russell Terrier — or a Jack Russell Terrorist as some would say. He can't help chasing things. It is simply in his nature.

If you do see him, you may notice that he runs on three legs. Kola has run hundreds of miles with the horses on the trails. However, last July he miscalculated. He was run over by a horse and seriously hurt.

SuzAnne carried him out on her saddle and she feared he could die from shock and the heat. Luckily, he made it back to the vet and two orthopedic surgeries later, he is out terrorizing the ranch again on three legs. We hope that over time, he will again use all four legs. He does now whenever he walks instead of runs - which isn't often.

He is a nuisance, He barks too much and sometimes intimidates guests when he chases their heels. But, we all have shortcomings. He is a closet lap dog who loves to snuggle. We love him, in spite of, or maybe even because of, his terrorist ways.



SuzAnne comforts Kola after his surgery last summer.