

**Pony Express
Red willow Ranch January 2009**



A new year has begun and we have a chance to reflect on the last year and its many good and sad times. It is with great sadness we had to witness the passing of Chris. He died peacefully at home on the 29th June and is missed by all. We are thankful as a family for the time we have known him and to see him fulfill so many of his dreams. Even though he will never be replaced we feel that he lives on here at the ranch



Elke, Ulrike & Craig are carrying on running the ranch. And we are very grateful for all the support we have had during the 2008 season which was not an easy one for us. The horses and animals remind us that life must carry on and their many escapades have made us laugh many



times.

Last year we had gained two new foals, annie and smokey who are doing very well if a little reluctant to now be parted from their mothers. Often seen playing together and smokey certainly is displaying stallion

tendencies and is trying to hang out with the big leaders of the herd, not always successfully.

In december kiera our golden retriever blessed us with 11 new puppies. Very sadly one died very early on but the 10 remaining ones are doing very well and have become a rebel crowd. As we do not feel that 10 extra dogs is quite what we need, they are up for sale.



Not only have our horses and dogs been having babies and are expecting but this year for the first time there will be a new human arrival as craig and ulrike are expecting their first child in july. Ulrike is doing very well and the parents to be are very proud and excited. Elke looks forward to being a grandmother again.

Our bookings for this year are rolling in and the 2009 season looks to be a lot of fun. Elke will be show casing redwillow at the equitana show in essen, germany. Look out for her in the western hall and come and say hello.