



DREAM MAKER



Dream Riders' Newsletter

Web Site: www.dreamrider.org Vol. 7 Number 1

January 29, 2006

Premier Accredited NARHA Riding Center

Winter and Spring Session Dates for 2006

Winter I Evening Riding Session: January 23- February 23

Winter II Evening Riding Session: March 6- April 6 (First Thursday ride will be Tuesday March 7 because of Region III Conference).

Spring I Evening Riding Session: April 17- May 18

Spring II Evening Riding Session: May 30- June 29 (First Monday lesson is on Tuesday May 30 because of Memorial Day).

Winter Day Riding Session: February 7- March 16

Spring Day Riding Session: March 21- May 4 (no lessons April 10-14 for Easter)

Important Dates to Remember for 2006:

Volunteer Training Session: January 21

Dream Riders Benefit Open Schooling Horse Show: February 25, 2006

NARHA Region III Conference: March 9-12

Special Olympics/ Therapeutic Horse Show: March 25

Dream Riders, Rider Recital: April 22

Mid-state Show Circuit Dream Riders Benefit Horse Show May 6

2005 In Review And A Look At 2006

Dream Riders is happy to report the completion of a successful eighth year of operation. As in the past years this success was made possible through the continuing support by all our friends in the Mid-lands of South Carolina. Dream Riders continues to grow from the original eight riders in October of 1998 to now a Premier Accredited NARHA Riding Center presently serving more than 40 riders per week during 2005 and continuing monthly equestrian experiences for the children from Epworth Children's Home. Plus Dream Riders continues to offer a summer day camp program for the Epworth Children's Home. Dream Riders in 2005 has traveled throughout SC taking some of our riders to various competitions and schooling dressage shows. Dream Riders conducted our annual Riders' Recital Day plus Family Fun Day. We continued to offer the Equestrian Special Olympics Sport to riders participating in Dream Riders who are enrolled in Area 7 Special Olympics.

Plans for 2006 include hosting the 2006 SCSO Equestrian Competition plus Invitational Competition for other special needs riders, the construction of our classroom facility, several fund raising events. Plus of course the two trade mark events, Riders' Recital Day and Family Fun Day, to look forward to.

This successful year could not have happened without the continuing support from our donors, both financial donors and gift in kind donors. Please read through the list of Dream Riders donors and when needing items or services please remember to visit one of our donors listed below. For these donors are the ones that back Dream Riders in order to continue to have an Equestrian Program for special needs riders here in the Midlands of SC.

Finacial Donors

Al Fowler	Greater Irmo	Lester Hite Sr.	Southern Plantation
American	Chamber of	Lexington Civitan	Walking Horse
Saddlebred Asso.	Commerce	Club	Assoc
Carolina's	Gilbert Junior	Linda & Wayne	Southern Saddlery
Andy & Jinki Suber	Achievement Class	Stowe	St Andrews
Anthony Keisler	Golden State Foods	Lisa Boykin	Women's Club
ARC of Mid-lands	Harley Heaven	Margaret Goggan	St. Matthew's
Barbara Hammond	Hendrix	Marilyn Ellis	Lutheran Church
Becky Shealy-	Construction	Mary Martha's	Stan Construction
Shealy Coffee	Herndon Chevrolet	Circle 7 Oaks	Co.
Blue Cross Blue	Jackie Hite	Presbyterian	Starnes Insurance
Shield of SC	James & Elizabeth	Matthew Loving	Agency
Cindy Hall	Algar	Michelin Tire Corp.	Stephen S.
Cindy Nord	James W. Duckett	Middleboro Trailer	Woodrow
Congaree Girl	Jr.	Sales	Stewart & Bronnie
Scout Troop 966	Jennifer Stoudemire	Patty Langley	Maurer
Consumer Feed &	Jim and Mary	Paula & Ursula	T&J Padalino, LCC
Seed	Corley	Keen	Tim Pearson
Deborah Ashcraft	Jo Andrea	Phyllis Gale	Trinity United
DMD	Stephenson	Price's Feed Store	Methodist Church,
DeLeon	Joanna Jones	Publix Grocery	Blythewood
Amusements, Inc.	John Schrenk	Stores	Troy Buzzard
Dolly I. Thiem-	Joyce Hampton	Rainbow's End	Unum Provident
Escobedo	Karen Park Family	Farm	Wayne Robinson
Doris and Stewart	Dentistry	RR Donnelley	William Brown
Liebelt	Carol Kennedy	Foundation	Women and Men of
Dr. Mike Privett	Lori Hullender	SC Pest Control	Peterson
Family Connection	Stokes, DVM	SC Surgical	Presbyterian
of SC	Larry H. Nelson	Referral Assoc	Church
Darryl, Shannon	DMD	Sharon Johnson	Woody Stoudemire
and Lindsay Frick	Laura Thomas	Sonya and Steve	Zebra Cleaners
	Leslie Watson	Motes	

Gift-in-Kind (These donors help to free up budgeted money to be used else where in our program)

Ace Drywall &	Chris Coates –	Jake & Betty Knotts -	Leonard Rish
Stucco	Farrier	State Senator	Lexington County
Amicks Farm	Danny Frazier	Jessica Lynch	Chronicle
Becky Shelley	Gilbert High School	Jim and Janice	Linda Johnson
Belly's Southern	Key Club	Lynch	Lori White
Pride BBQ	Hendrix Farm	Jim Thompson - DJ	Mike & Virginia
Brix Oven Bistro	Hendrix Promotions	Joe Pinner – WISTV	McGee
Charlotte Hoffman	Jackie Hite	Kristen Gray-Mitchell	Mike Grogan

Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Davis	Riverbanks Zoo Teens	St Matthew's Lutheran Church Youth	The Tack Room of Camden
Oswald Lumber Company	Sally House	Susan Farrell	Tim Almeda
Palmetto Youth	Saxe Gotha	Susan Henderson	Tommy Shealy
Paint Horse Club	Presbyterian Church Youth	Sysco Food Services	Transcom Trading Co.
Petersen	Sharon Shirah	Ted Pitts- State Representative	Try Buzzard
Presbyterian Church			Wiz's Eatery
			Zoo Teens

Volunteers

Dream Riders has only one paid employee which is the Head Riding Instructor all other program needs are carried out by a team of dedicated volunteers. Volunteers are the life blood of Dream Riders without these volunteers, our people special needs would not have Dream Riders. Please take time to view the list of volunteers below and if you know one or more of our volunteers please take the time to let them know that you appreciate their help in assisting people with special needs.

Abby Turner	Debora & Sarah Sox	John Schrenk	Maggie Davis
Alisha Epps	Deborah Peavy	Jordan Kirkpatrick	Maggie Lovitt
Allyson Joyce	Diane Metts	Josh Addy	Martha Sharpe
Amanda Segura	Donna Ray	Julie Sessions	The Maurer Family
Ashleigh Brown & Family	Emily Allen	Tammy Baxley	Mike Grogan
Barbara Hammond	Faith Anderson	Julia Walker	Patrice Smith
Cameron & Holly Taylor	Gina Robinson	Karen Auld	Patty Langley
Carol Kennedy	Haley Hendrix	Kenneth Morris	Sarah Holbrook
Christina Payne	Hannah Frazier	Kimberly & Rita Price	Sarah Todd
Corky Dyer	Heather Williams	Larry Oswald	Sue Pfaff
Deane Birwell	Jen Rogers	Laura Thomas	The Snowden Family
Debbie Murray	Jeremy Brunson	Lewis Dyer	
	Jeremy Stoudemire	Linda Stowe	
	Jessica Lynch		

Dream Riders through the generous support from various organizations and people of the Mid-lands has been able to continuously expand and has achieved the following milestones during 2006.

- Six year of partnership with Lexington High Schools' Service Learning class for students to work as volunteers at Dream Riders for daytime therapeutic riding classes.
- Dream Riders holds third annual Rider's Recital day for families and friends, riders show of their skills and talents, plus second annual Family Fun Day, what a social gathering.
- Haley Hendrix (a Dream Riders' volunteer), Miss Greater Irmo Teen, raises funds for Dream Riders to purchase a much needed utility vehicle as part of her Miss Teen Platform.
- We successfully conduct our seventh annual benefit horse show fund-raiser to benefit our building fund.
- Resurfacing and compacting of all barn stalls with the help of 40 plus tons of sand clay.
- Two weeks summer day camp programs for the Epworth Children's Home funded by grants from Gilbert High Junior Achievement Grant, Golden State Foods, and moneys from the St Andrews Women's Club.
- Third year of general facility clean up and painting by the youth from Saxa Gotha Presbyterian Church.
- Dream Riders Instructors and Volunteers attended the 2005 NARHA Region 3 Conference held at Virginia Horse Park in Lexington, Virginia.
- Dream Riders supporters come to the aid in funding for our rider sponsorship program as funds came close to being depleted.

- Rider rotation program continues to help Dream Riders have a small riders' waiting list.
- Dream Riders seen in Peoples magazine, WIS-TV, CNN, Lexington Chronicle, and inquiries from WLTX-TV, FOX TV, plus two local papers
- Dream Riders ends the 2005 on good financial footing thanks to continued cost cutting ideas continuing to be implemented during the 2005 sessions.

Words from Our Program Instructors Jennifer and Corky

2005 was a wonderful year for Dream Riders. We had some good additions of riders and very special volunteers; we also had some that left for many different reasons; our volunteers and riders had some wonderful things going on in their lives and some had tragedy; our summer camps were very rewarding; we conducted some worthwhile fundraisers and had a great fundraiser conducted for us. We had some nice written and visual media coverage that helped to get our name out in the public's eye.; our horses have stayed healthy; Lewis bought his first horse in 10 years; and most of all, we had many smiling faces and people feeling needed and important to each other around here; riders reached goals higher than they ever believed they would; many friendships developed between riders and volunteers.

We are enthusiastic and excited about the plans for 2006. It looks like it could be as wonderful a year as 2005. In closing we would like to include this New Year's Prayer:

Dear Lord, please give me...
 A few friends who understand me
 And yet remain my friends.
 A work to do which has real value,
 Without which the world
 Would feel poorer
 A mind unafraid to travel,
 Even though the trail be not blazed.
 An understanding heart...
 A sense of humor.
 Time for quiet, silent meditation.
 A feeling of the presence of God,
 And the patience to wait
 For the coming of these things,
 With wisdom to know them
 When they come.
 -W.R, Hunt

Happy New Year to Each and Every one of you!!

Christmas at Dream Riders

This year the instructors thought it would be fun for the riders and volunteers to have the chance to give a special gift to their favorite horse. Corky and Jennifer brainstormed and came up with 10 items that each horse needed or would enjoy. These items ranged in cost from dentist trips and veterinarian well checkups to bags of apples and carrots. The industrious instructors set out looking in 3 local stores that helped support Dream Riders in the year 2005, to find these items and the prices. Next, they enlisted some crafty volunteers to help make 10 colored horses for each Dream Riders horses, print the horse's name on them and stick a sticker on the back with an item for this horse, the price and where to find it. At the Dream Riders' Family Day on November 5, 2005, we put up a Christmas tree with these horse tags tied to the branches with pretty ribbon as ornaments, a poster with the instruction on what to do and sheets of paper with directions to the 3 stores. Then, the rest was up to the riders and volunteers. They did a GREAT JOB!! Many of the horses got new halter bridles, halters, lead ropes and brushes. Some got fly spray, show sheen, wormer, sand colic preventive, fly

mask, oats, brand, and alfalfa pellets. One got a new feed tub and they all got a lot of apples and carrots. It was fun every day to go to the barn and search or look in the bathroom to see what Santa's elves brought that day for the horses. Thanks to all who participated in this fun activity. It was exactly what they needed or wanted! Thanks to Price's Feed, Consumer Feed and Locklair Feed for helping us with this project.

It's as Easy as 1-2-3 To Help Support

DREAM RIDERS

Through Nutrena Feeds with out spending any money !!

1. Simply cut the Proof of purchase coupon off the back of the bag. Only whole, intact coupons will be accepted by Nutrena Feed Company. Feed tags are not accepted.
2. Send your collected feed coupons to **Dream Riders, 156 Sandy Hill Rd., Lexington, SC, 29072.**
3. Dream Riders will redeem received coupons to Nutrena Feed Company for cash refunds. \$0.25 for Farr, Life Design, Vitality and Horse Kwik feeds ; \$0.15 for Triumph Sweet Feeds, Triumph 12-4 Pellet (code 6137), Triumph Fortified All Grain and Triumph 10 Pellet (code 6797) feeds; \$0.10 for Sweet Stuff and Triumph 12-3 (code 4555) feeds.

OR

If you live in the Lexington area we will pick up your empty bags. Call 957-7906 or email dreamr2@mindspring.com

This is a GREAT and EASY way to support Dream Riders

Some of you might remember Dream Riders did this with Southern States Feeds when there was a Southern States feed store in Lexington. We were able to contribute \$1,000.00 toward the purchase of our feed building and \$1,300.00 toward the purchase of the storage building by the horse ring. So, as you can see, these little coupons can make a difference!! We are hoping to use the money gained from these coupons to help with the classroom we so desperately need to round out our curriculum for the riders. Thanks for your support.

Through Dedicated Dream Riders Volunteers A Special Rider's Dream Becomes Reality

I want to take time to show how everyone involved in Dream Riders is like family to each other. Mitchel Banks is a rider here at Dream Riders with spina bifida and had to take a leave of absence from our program in order to under go needed surgery. Mitchel has had a rough time over the past six months but many of our volunteers have taken the time to visit or stay in tough with him. Volunteers, Allyson Joyce and Diane Metts, know how much of a Clemson fan Mitchel and his family are, so they made arrangements for the Banks family to attend the Columbia Touchdown Club as Clemson's Football Coach Tommy Bowden was the guest speaker. The following is the story as printed in the State paper

"Special Guest Receives Special Visit From Bowden

Clemson football coach Tommy Bowden was the featured guest speaker at a recent meeting of the Columbia Touchdown Club.

Before his appearance, the club received a request that the family of a 14 year old special needs child who is a Clemson fan be invited as a guest. The boy wanted to attend our meeting to see and hear his favorite coach. We honored this request and provided a table on the front row for him and his family. When Bowden arrived, instead of heading for the buffet, he went straight to this table for a visit with the family. He spent a good deal of time there and made many kind and thoughtful remarks.

Later, during the coach's speech, he singled out the boy for recognition. When the meeting concluded, Bowden remained to spend more time with the boy and did not leave until all his requests for autographs and pictures had been fulfilled.

This was but one day in the life of Bowden. But because of his compassion and decency, there is a special young man who will remember this day for the rest of his life.

Stories such as this about coaches of high-profile programs rarely receive the publicity they deserve. Even though I'm a University of South Carolina graduate who bleeds garnet, I believe this story of Bowden's kindness should not go untold." *By Gene Jarrett, President Columbia Touchdown Club..*

Thanks to Allyson and Diane plus all our volunteers for helping to maintain the Dream Riders family atmosphere. Additionally this story is very dear to the hearts of Lewis and Corky Dyer (two of the founders of Dream Riders) in that both attended Clemson University where they met each other and then married. And thanks to Tommy for the donation of an autographed football to be auctioned off at a benefit fund raiser for Dream Riders.

Closing the Mustang Era at Dream Riders

Royal Beta, "Roy" was purchased in June 2001 for Dream Riders. Dent middle School Beta Club had raised a large portion of the cost and Lexington Civitian Club gave Dream Riders the balance needed. Our dream of having a Mustang that was specially trained to do this job in the program was about to come true. We just had to come up with \$665.00 to bring him home. We did this by having a bake sale which many people contributed to and used donated tack sale at a local horse show. When he arrived, Corky cried because he was such a handsome fella and he immediately bonded with Jennifer. Jennifer spent many hours training Roy and he became very proficient in training level dressage. Corky was always "sacking" him out with a new item to be used in the therapy ring. He was particular about who he wanted to be with and what he wanted to do, which doesn't work for a therapy horse. He just couldn't learn to trust a lot of people. Finally, in the spring of 2004 we came to the decision this was how it was going to be for him and no matter how hard we tried to make him like his job as a therapy horse we couldn't. We all search for that perfect place for Roy to be. He now has a new Jennifer and lives in Aiken, SC. She called us after two weeks to tell us how much she loves him and how happy he seems. It was a hard chapter to close here at Dream Riders. He was a community project that involved so many people from all walks of life. We learned so much from him about natural horse instincts and the ways of a mustang. We wish Jennifer and Roy all the happiness they both deserve!!

Tic Tack Becomes a Dream Riders' Horse

Tic Tack has been used in Dream Riders therapy program since June of 2001. Her owner, Ashleigh Brown, was a volunteer her. Her parents approached Dream Riders to see if they could keep a horse here for her since she was here so much. Jennifer hand picked Tic Tac for Ashleigh. She showed her and we used her on a limited basis in lessons. Ashleigh has now moved on but wanted to make sure Tic Tac had a good home. She decided the only way she could be sure of this was to donate her to Dream Riders. Thanks to the Brown Family, especially Ashleigh, for this wonderful paint mare!!

Family Day 2005

November 5 2005 Dream Riders was full of laughs and joy. The Family Day event was well attended by riders, volunteers, supporters and their families. Most of the activities were a huge success. The favorite as always was the horseback riding, thanks to our wonderful instructor Jennifer, volunteers and horses. The stick horse rodeo was a wild and exciting event and the crafts from the craft table turned out so lovely, thanks to the Gilbert High School Key Club who organized and oversaw these events. The hay ride was a wonderful added ride conduct by Lewis. He enjoyed taking people back and forth to their cars with the Kubota RTV and a trailer. Every once in a while he added a little extra rider! All participants at the game and bingo table won prizes thanks to Carol Kennedy and the Gilbert Key Club. The interactive display from the Riverbanks Zoo delighted and entertained many. A special thanks to Jen Rodgers and the Zoo Teens from River Banks Zoo. A thank you goes out to Andy Maurer and his parents for keeping the snack table organized and full of goodies. Last but definitely not least, a big thank you to Barbara Hammond for relaxing many of the participants and volunteer by offering chair massages! Also, thanks to Dennis Snowden many wonderful pictures were taken for us to share with all. Make sure you look at the collage of Family Day posted on the Bathroom door next time you are at Dream Riders.

The Dyers Have a Family Horse Again

It has been a long time since Lewis, Dream Riders' founder and president, has had a horse. He has long dreamed of driving a horse and being able for himself and Lew (special needs son) to

participate in the trail rides along with our instructors and volunteers. This reality came about as Lewis and the family went to look at another registered Haflinger to possibly use in the Dream Riders program. Dream Riders already has 2 Haflinger horses and they definitely fit the job as therapy horses; sturdy, low maintenance and love everybody. While there, the man offered Lewis a chance to drive "Malkie". When Lewis got off the cart and stopped smiling from ear to ear, he decided he would buy this horse and let Dream Riders use him for lessons. So far he has been a great addition to the Dyer family and Dream Riders. So, look out trail riders, Lew, Lewis, "Malkie", and the red cart are coming!

New Faces at Dream Riders

Volunteers:

Marla Snowden
Abby Turner
Jeremy Brunson

Julia Walker
Sarah Holbrook
Stormy Lilley

Maggie Lovitt
Sarah Todd
Laura Ufford

Service Learning Students: What a great group of young ladies!!

Kristen Cometto
Shannon Porter

Callie Alexander
Margaret Daugherty

Caroline Collison
Sarah Moon

Sally Clardy

Riders:

Julius Grooms
Jarad Hess
Devie Morris
Kelsey Dillion

