

# Winnies and Nickers

Horses Making  
Miracle...  
One Rider at a

July 2009

Volume 4 Issue 7

## It's Show Time!

**August 8, 2009—Starts at 9:00 AM SHARP!**



If you have not registered your rider yet, please do so. Registration closes on August 1, 2009—no exceptions. This will give the show committee only one week to make sure that the riders and horses are properly matched and the entries are listed in the Show Program.

Class list, entry forms and advertising information is *all* on the Website. If you or someone you know would like to sponsor the ribbons for a class, please give them the advertising form. Class sponsors can be individuals as well as businesses.

**Show clothes**—as we indicated last year, show clothes are not required as this is a *fun* show. Riders are expected to wear proper riding clothes—long pants, closed-toe shoes or boots, socks—long, not just in the shoe, shirt or blouse (t-shirt is fine as long as it does not contain profanity or obscene language or graphics). Helmets, of course, are mandatory.

**Video**—Thanks to Susan Hickey, the *entire* show will be video taped by Dynamite Video Productions out of Flint—<http://dynamitevideoproductions.com>. The cost of the DVD with the *entire* show on it, book marked so you can easily find your rider in the show is only \$25 each. I will have forms available. DVDs will be mailed directly to you or whomever you want to receive them approximately 3 or 4 weeks after the show. Our videographer has suggested that someone ask as a announcer for the show. We also need a short bio on each rider. The bio would be read during the taping and will help you remember who was riding which horse in each class. So, anyone who has always wanted a job as a radio announcer, now is your time to shine.

**Pictures**—feel free to take pictures of your riders on the horse and off. Just be aware of other parents or family members that will want to take pictures of their riders as well. Flash does not bother the horses.

**Guests**—invite your family and friends. But, be sure to bring enough chairs. We have a limited number of plastic chairs. Seating will be at both ends of the arena. NOTE: If it's a nice, not hot, day, and it's okay with the videographers, we may hold the show in our outdoor arena.

**Food**—Please pack a picnic lunch for yourself and your family. Trash cans will be placed in convenient locations. **PLEASE BE AWARE OF PLASTIC AND FOIL WRAPS!** Horses cannot vomit. Should any horse accidentally eat plastic or foil, or any other non-food item, they can impact and colic. Dispose of plates, cups, utensils, etc. properly. If you are bringing a bar-b-q to set up, let me know ahead of time. We will designate an area for BBQ cooking.



### Calendar of Events

**July 4—5—Independence Day Weekend**—No classes.

**July 6—10 4-H Fair Week**—No classes. See [www.oakfair.org](http://www.oakfair.org) for fair schedule.

**July 11—ALL CLASSES RESUME!**

**July 13—16; July 20—23; July 27—30 Horses and More.** See Website for details or to register.

**August 1—4-H Twillingate Horse Show** Registration due by July 25.

**Aug. 8—Giddy-Up Go Horse Show** This is *our* Horse Show. Information in June newsletter. Registration due by Aug. 1. *Flyer on Website.*

**Aug, 9—No classes.** Clean up after show.

**August 15—4-H Grand Finale Horse Show** Registration due by August 8

**September 5—7—Labor Day Week-end**—No classes.

**October 17—Awards Celebration—2:00 pm** Potluck lunch—awards for all riders.

### Welcome to...

We'd like to welcome our new riders—Adriane Lainson, Nancy Starr, Alexis Sawyer, Megan and Nicole Byrd, Symone Cannon and Bill and Charley Osmun to our riding programs. We look forward to watching their progress in our riding program.

We are also fortunate to have Alaina Marr as a new volunteer. Regan Tackett invited her to come one day and she decided to stay! Welcome!

Thank you, Regan. We still could use more volunteers on Monday and Tuesday evenings as well as Tuesday at 11:00 am. Who could you invite?



**Horses Making Miracle...  
One Rider at a Time**

Pretty Pony Pastures  
P. O. Box 86  
9160 Eagle Road  
Davisburg, MI 48350  
Phone: 248.634.7276  
Hot line: 248.245.0014  
Email: Linda@prettyponypastures.org

## State of the Farm, Revisited

In spite of the fact that we have increased the number of students, number of lessons, marketing efforts, etc. we still need to raise our riding rates. (Our goal is 100 students, we now have 68.)

Even with our increased rate, our cost to ride is still one of the lowest rates in this area. Even the trail rides at the local state parks (no lesson, just ride) is higher. The cost of hay, grain, and medical supplies has increased significantly since we started our business.

Effective September 1, 2009, the rate of all riding classes will increase by \$5.00.

To help, we will offer the following:

- One free every time the rider completes ten lessons in a row. If we cancel, it is not counted as a missed lesson.
- 10% off when ten lessons are prepaid. Lesson coupons expire 120 days after purchase.
- 5% off when five lessons are prepaid. Lesson coupons expire 60 days after purchase.
- \$10.00 off a sibling's riding lesson.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call or e-mail me.

## July Birthdays

The following riders and volunteers have birthdays this month.

- Nicole Byrd
- Arianne Levenson
- Carly Evans
- Emily Kinser
- Michael Capozzo
- Symone Cannon



Wishing you a happy birthday and a great year.

## More Condolences

Keith Cousins, passed away on June 4th. He and his wife Janet were the breeder of many of our horses. Keith kept our drive clear in winter and helped when ever we had a problem. If you were here for our *Not so Xtreme Barn Makeover* last year, you probably say Keith on the tractor digging holes for the fence posts or offering suggestions on how to do some of the tasks easier or better.

We also want to extend condolences to Chelley Parks, who lost her mother earlier this month as well. Chelley rides in the adult class on Thursday. Her daughter, Ariel, rides on Wednesday evenings.

## Bits and Pieces

**Horses and More**—There are still a few places available. Registration forms are available on the Website. You *do not* have to be a regular rider to participate. New riders are welcome. Registration and more information is available on our Website.

**Weather**—The heat advisory this past week caught everyone off guard. Here are the summer guidelines for closings:

- Heat advisory or ozone action day is declared.
- Heat index is at or above 95°. NOTE: If the temperature is above 85°, please call. Heat index at 90° calls for extreme caution—for both the riders and the horses.
- Severe storm warnings/watches. If there is a severe storm watch (thunder storm or tornado), call. If there is a warning, we are closed. We will close if there is cloud to ground lightning strikes within five miles of our facility.

If the weather look threatening and you are not sure if there are classes, please call the hot line—248-245-0014.

**Sign in Sheets/Sign out Calendar**—Please be sure to sign in every time you ride or volunteer. This is especially helpful for the volunteers who need to track their hours. Also, there is a calendar on the table near the sign in sheets. It is helpful if you write the rider's name on the dates that he/she will not be riding. This assists me in know how many volunteers are needed for a class and if there is an opening, should another rider need a make-up class.

**Lost and Found**—We have found sunglasses, water bottles, jackets, sweatshirts, riding helmets over the past few months. All items will be stored in the Tack Room. If no one claims the items after a reasonable amount of time, they will be donated.

**Helmets**, two people asked me to order a helmet for their rider—size Medium. The helmets are in—cost is \$30.00. Please see me at your next lesson to claim them.

*Also, one of our large helmets has turned up missing. If your rider accidentally wore a helmet home, please return it at the next lesson.*

**Pardon our Dust**—This should be a quick, but pardon our dust just the same. First, thank you to the riders and parents who understood why classes were delayed and slightly shorter on Saturday. We needed to get the arena viewing area ready for additional hay storage. We are also adding an outdoor arena. The arena will be large enough for our dressage riders to properly learn the patterns that will be expected of them.