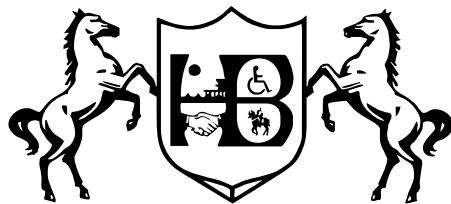


*"The Spirit
that Overcomes
Disabilities"*



Winter 2009



THERAPEUTIC RIDING CENTER
OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

OUR MISSION

*To provide a safe,
comprehensive and educational
program through horseback
riding and related equestrian
activities*

www.trchb.org

trchb@earthlink.net

Derby Day Comes to Huntington Beach!

TRC to host the legendary race

You won't have to travel over 2,000 miles to Churchill Downs to experience the excitement of the 2009 Kentucky Derby. Join us on Saturday May 2, from 2-7 p.m. at the Huntington Central Park Equestrian Center for a fun-filled day of food, drinks, and dancing. We'll have silent and live auctions, stick pony race, hat contest and parade of athletes. Indulge in a scrumptious barbecue dinner served up by Marshall's

Bodacious Barbeque. Dance to the beat of the local celebrity band "The Emperors" as they perform hits from the 60's and 70's. Watch riding demonstrations and have your picture taken with one of our TRC horses. And of course, you'll have your chance to choose this year's Derby winner when you play the "Derby Pick". All the while we'll be bringing you sounds of the legendary race via radio broadcast, so you'll

know who goes on to compete for the coveted Triple Crown. So hurry and get your tickets (pre-sale only, see flyer inside), and be a part of the history and tradition of the Kentucky Derby with your friends from TRC!

New arena, stalls shaping up

Eagle Scouts Build Bleachers, Roofs

Parents can now sit on bleachers while watching their kids ride in their new arena, thanks to Boy Scout Troop #319 of Huntington Beach. Scout Nick Walts wrote up and spearheaded the entire project, a requirement for his Eagle Scout badge. The four scouts assembled the bleachers in one day.

Eagle Scout Daniel Andrews and Crew #88 from Westminster were hard at work in January weather-proofing our horses' new stalls. The ten scouts for the project cleaned out the stalls, installed the wood framework and laid the PVC piping for the rear portion of the stalls.

We appreciate all of the contributions that the scouts made to TRC. The dedication that all involved gave to their respective projects exemplifies the community spirit, and will benefit many future TRC riders. Much thanks to all for your hard work, and congratulations to Nick and Daniel on your achievements.



Nick (foreground) and his crew (from right to left) Zack Zombeck, Brett Kubon, Brent Spaulding put on the finishing touches.



Daniel secures a panel of piping on a stall. Six 12'-long panels drilled into the framework.

Sign up for new classes!

Students looking to bring their riding skills to a new level may now sign up for private lessons. For those who want to learn basic horsemanship from the ground up, we are offering lessons in grooming and tacking. For more information on these new and exciting classes, call the TRC office at (714) 848-0966.



The crew, family and friends test out the new seating.



One of the completed stalls. Formerly, only the front of the stall had roofing. Now the entire stall is protected from the elements.

TRC CHAMPIONS

2008 was a milestone year for TRC, with the completion of our temporary overflow arena. Our students now have their very own platform from which they display the tremendous strides they make every week. All of our cherished supporters made that possible, from Gold to Individual

Individual Champions, from monetary to in-kind gifts.

Growth, strength and ability is what NARHA and every one of its member centers are all about. And our students will settle for no less. It's a thrill and a privilege to watch them succeed every week; we have that

privilege because of you. Without you, we could not exist.

Next year will mark another milestone: we will celebrate our 20th year. You were a part of our first 20 years – we're grateful to you for coming along with us for our next 20.



Students took advantage of the breaks in between the December rains to use the new arena. During a Monday class Steven, Kyle and Ashley, on Traveler, Blaze and Rhythm, partake in the traditional relay race.



Steven waits on the new mounting block that bears the words, "To infinity and beyond - Steven's Step"

Double Fun-raiser

The generosity of HCPEC staff and boarders was reflected at the first annual Holiday Potluck held in November at The Red Horse Barn area of the Equestrian Center. The event benefitted both Orangewood Children's Home and TRC. Guests enjoyed good company, good food and raffle prizes donated by many of the boarders and trainers. Thank you to Corinne Dekker and ETI Corral 100, HCPEC and The Red Horse Barn for donating the facilities. Additional sponsors were "Laura" of Bella Terra and Giddyap Girls.

The Coffee Cart

Our Coffee Cart fundraiser held in November was a huge success. In between trail rides, lessons, and taking care of other business, boarders took time out for a break to catch up on the latest TRC news. Those who weren't familiar with our program became acquainted with us, picking up a brochure or newsletter, or buying a t-shirt. Thanks goes out to Adams Avenue Doughnuts and Bagelmania for sponsoring the event.



Coffee, doughnuts and bagels were a hit with boarders of all ages.

The Difference one Volunteer Made...

In the November 2008 newsletter, we introduced to you a volunteer who we suddenly and tragically lost. Following is a letter from one mother about Tim and the happiness he brought to her daughter and entire family.



My name is Diane and I'm a proud parent of a nine-year-old daughter (Ashley) with Rett Syndrome. Tim was at the stable either on a Monday or Tuesday afternoon for over four years to sidewalk with Ashley. Tim never missed a day and Ashley, the other volunteers and the parents loved him. Tim's heart was so giving and his humor never failed him. All you had to do was to tell him one time something about Ashley or another student and he'd never forget. Tim brought personalized letters and photos to Ashley of the Disney Princesses and even took pictures of Ashley sitting up looking so proud on a horse. This meant so much to our family as Ashley is in a wheelchair. Tim took all his strength and gave it to the kids. Ashley (a Make-a-Wish girl) was Tim's Disney Princess and she knew it. Tim encouraged Ashley to sit up tall like a tree trunk, and you could see that Tim had a gift to connect with special needs children. Ashley loved Tim. Although she could not talk, she communicated to Tim with her eyes. When she had some tough days with scoliosis and seizures, Tim could always make her days brighter with songs and encouragement.

Tim, you will not be forgotten. A beautiful donated bench named in your honor is located at the new arena for all to remember and reminisce about you, our beloved volunteer. Tim, you were our Mr. Tuesday as well.

Volunteer Corner

It's all in the Family...

When Kendall Smith opened up a lemonade stand two years ago and donated all of her proceeds to TRC, little did she know that was only the beginning. Today, she is a reliable and dedicated member of Monday's volunteer crew. She helps set up the arena for lessons, cleans up when all the students have left, and most important of all is a caring and encouraging friend to the students. Developing comfortable friendships with special people of all ages comes naturally to her. Kendall has also recruited her parents Michelle and Kevin. Michelle is a sidewalker and



Kevin, Michelle and Kendall with Rhythm

horse leader and Kevin can be seen behind the camera taking fabulous photos of the students. He also installed new lighting in and outside our tackroom.

Away from TRC, Kendall is a member of the Navajo tribe of the Indian Princesses, a group for girls in kindergarten through 3rd grade that promotes strong family relationships. Last year, she received the Silver Feather Award for her community service activities, making her the youngest Princess to date to receive the honor.

To the Smith family – we're glad to have you with us at TRC!

It's Time to Reconnect with Albertson's!

Now's the time to reconnect your Community Partners card (This is where Albertson's donates a percentage of your purchase to TRC). You can reconnect either by phone by calling 1(800) 696-6419 or online at www.albertsons.com. You'll need to know the Community Partners # for TRC: 49000106. If you don't yet have your Community Partners Card, this is a great time to go get it! We rely on our partners in the community, and Albertson's generosity means hundreds of much-needed dollars yearly for TRC.



And then there was light...

When dusk came early on those short winter days, grateful volunteers were able to better navigate their way around the tack room thanks to Kevin Smith. And not only do we have new lighting, but we're energy efficient. A single solar panel mounted on top of the tack room collects enough daylight to last approximately six hours after dark. With a separate fixture installed inside, we have plenty of illumination for those in-between-class tack changes. Thanks, Kevin, for lighting our way!

Horse Tails – Dollar



David plays a game of basketball with Dollar and volunteer Dave

Dollar, a 10-year-old registered Paint, came to TRC in September 2008 from Norco. He had already led an exciting life that includes trail, roping, parades, flags; he even carried a rodeo princess. Now at TRC, he is a reliable mount for our riders.

Dollar seems to know his spectacular sorrel overo color pattern (white splashes all over) attracts attention, and he takes full advantage of it. If he isn't in the ring giving a lesson, he's pulling down tack left on the rail. We know we can't leave a blanket near him -it'll be on the ground! But in the ring with a student on him he's all business. And on his off days, he's always happy to see visitors to his stall.

Update!!!

TRC horses Catfish and Bart (who, coincidentally, both raced at one point in their lives) retired to the 100-Mile Ranch in September of last year. Fish (far left) has since been adopted by a young girl who lives near the ranch: Bart (near left) found some good buddies and runs with them daily.

Did you know...

- There are 717 total NARHA member centers worldwide;
- Over 38,000 children and adults participate in NARHA activities. Below is a breakdown by age:
 - 2-5 years – 14%
 - 6-10 years – 31%
 - 11-18 years – 33%
 - 19-50 years – 17%
 - 51-65 years – 4%
 - 66+ years – 1%;
- There are more than 5,800 equines: they include:
 - 4,674 horses
 - 868 ponies
 - 168 Minis
 - 44 Donkeys
 - 32 Mules
 - 45 other;
- There are over 2,600 NARHA certified instructors;
- There are over 29,000 NARHA volunteers; and.
- From January to June 2008, volunteers contributed over 6,000 tracked hours; this figure does not include communication and administrative activities.



THERAPEUTIC RIDING CENTER
OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

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Newsletter

Vivienne Maisner



Students develop a variety of skills through games. Above, Drake displays his abilities during a game of horseshoes, while Traveler waits quietly..

**BECOME A MEMBER OF THE
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OF HUNTINGTON BEACH!**

___ \$1000+ - Gold Champion ___ \$100+ - Blue Ribbon Champion
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Please remit to: TRCHB-Membership, P.O. Box 2298, Huntington Beach, CA 92647. We welcome your call for more information at 714-848-0966.

Thank you