



HANDI-RIDERS

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HANDI-RIDERS of NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

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The Little Program that Could: Making improvements one phase at a time

Since early in the program's history, Handi-Riders has aspired to create and offer a year-round program to our riders. In the Winter of 2005, Handi-Riders moved and acquired the property we currently reside on. Since that time, we have been acquiring the necessary use permits and metal for the structure, and preparing the arena pad.

Through the generosity of community members, our volunteers and rider families, Handi-Riders is one step closer to raising the arena roof and fulfilling the goal of a year-round program. With our new covered arena, we will be able to offer lessons



to our riders year-round while being sheltered from the sweltering heat and unpredictable rain. This past week, the metal beams and roofing materials for the covered arena began going up.

Currently a capital campaign is on-going to establish funds to pay off the roof. Handi-Riders is seeking sponsors to fund the 22 metal support pillars. Donations of any size are appreciated; additionally, Handi-Riders is offering a sponsor

ship plaque for any individual, group or organization willing to sponsor in the amounts of

12" Plaque	\$500	Full pillar
10" Plaque	\$250	Half pillar
8" Plaque	\$125	Quarter pillar

Due to a generous bid and the timely efforts of Gilmore Construction, our roof is up! However, funding is still needed to finish paying off the roof.

Several of our riders and volunteers have already experienced the new arena...and the response has been positive. Highlights include: flat ground, improved depth of footing, shaded cool, and more space to test out the skills of our riders!

Despite the current economic difficulties, Handi-Riders is optimistic about and dedicated to growing a program that will be around for years to come. Thanks to all who make that possible!



Thanks to Our Supporters: Growing our arena fund

There are many ways to help support our program. For individuals or groups who cannot donate their time and energy to help by volunteering, there is the possibility of donation or fundraiser support. Saturday June 19th, The Chico Equestrian Association hosted a benefit ride for Handi-Riders. The event raised a little over \$300, but the generosity didn't stop there; the CEA extended additional support by sponsoring a pillar for the arena. June 26th, the golf-community added their support by coming out to partake in the annual Handi-Riders golf tournament. These recent fundraising and benefit events have rejuvenated the covered arena fund, and we would like to extend our warmest thanks to all who support Handi-Riders in any way.

COME HELP: VOLUNTEER!

Our Fall Session starts September 13th, 2010.

Our next volunteer training is September 11th, 2010.

For more information about volunteering and the training, contact

Kara at (530) 533-5333.

SAVE THE DATE!

August 28th

ACTHA Benefit Ride

September 11th

Honky-Tonkin on the River

September 25th

CEA Horse Expo

October 10th

Hoof Day for Horse Owners

October 16th

Ride & Dine, Camelot Equestrian Park

October 23rd

Ribs, Rods & Rides

November 6th

Last day of Fall Session

Call for details: 533-5333

Behind the Scenes: Meet our barn volunteers!

Being a volunteer at Handi-Riders can encompass any variety of roles and responsibilities. The majority of our volunteers are familiar with the roles of leader and side-walker, working directly with the horses and riders. These roles require the greatest number of volunteers, as determined by the number of riders and their individual needs.

However, we also have a handful of volunteers who due to age or personal reasons, are more suited to helping in the barn or preparing for classes. These volunteers are quite valuable to the flow and maintenance of the program. Barn volunteers, contribute their efforts through any variety of tasks, including but not limited to: helping to groom and tack horses for classes; mucking pastures, stalls and arenas; keeping the tack-room and other work areas tidy; helping to maintain the condition of program props and ensure that they get put away; acting as a scribe to write down stirrup lengths or other important notations as directed by the instructor; helping with secretarial jobs in the office and taking pictures or video footage.

Meet the faces behind the scenes!



Laura is our most seasoned barn volunteer; her expertise is in maintaining the flow of horse-preparation and guiding our newer volunteers through the tack room and location of the

horses.

More recent barn volunteers, include Dulce, Andrew, and Stephanie.

Andrew has spent countless hours keeping our stalls and pastures clean and free of manure and other equine-irritants.

Stephanie and Dulce have been helping on the ground, getting horses ready between classes and assisting with barn or ground activities of our riders during the current summer session classes. Many thanks to all our volunteers, including the less visible but still greatly valued barn volunteers.

Continued below



Barn Volunteers continued from above

In addition to our regular barn-volunteers, Handi-Riders also values those individuals and groups who donate their time to special "project dates".

Several groups have come out to help with program improvement projects. Jonathan A's Scout troop donated their time to help clear rocks and light debris from our riding trails. Liz Hurd and several of her Agriculture classmates donated their time to re-paint the picnic tables, ground poles and siding over the rider-parking area.

If you know of a group or service organization who would like to donate their time to help with a special project, please let us know. Handi-Riders offers many opportunities to help; give us your time and we will find a way to utilize your talents!



Special Events: Come join us!

ACTHA Ride: August 28th

Love to ride and willing to try your hand at our trail obstacles? Handi-Riders has teamed up with Spirit Quilts (a local non-profit that makes quilts for community children's groups), to present a benefit trail ride. The trail-competition will follow the rules and guidelines set forth by the American Competitive Trail Horse Association (ACTHA), and is open to youth and adults offering four different entry types: Open, Pleasure, Junior, and Adult Buddy (non-competitive). Riders must be ACTHA members, as the liability insurance is covered in the membership fee; to join, simply go to www.actha.us. The upcoming event will be held in Magalia, and will include six judged obstacles. Visit www.actha.us or contact Jaya-Mae at 873-2765 for more information.



Hoof Day for Horse Owners: October 10th

Come learn how to care for and preserve your horse's hooves. Natural hoof-care specialist, Sally Hugg, and Roman Cuevas (Handi-Riders farrier) will provide demonstrations and lecture information on all things hoof-related. The fee for the event is \$25, with proceeds going to benefit Handi-Riders' new covered arena and program sustainability fund. The event will run 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM and be held in the newly covered arena. More information available by calling the office at (530) 533-5333.

Indulge Your Taste buds & Come Support Handi-Riders



Open your calendar, save the date and come join us! We are pleased to announce the 2nd Annual BBQ Rib Cook-off to benefit Handi-Riders, Saturday, October 23, 2010.

The event is part of the Ribs-Rods and Rides event hosted by Rolling Hills Casino in Corning. Come taste some of the best ribs in the North State. The cook-off is an invitation only event pitting some of the best cooks in the area against each other.

Tickets are \$15 dollars each and currently available through Handi-Riders and community ticket outlets, including, Horse Store & More, and Fir Street Gallery & Gifts. The proceeds from ticket sales will go to benefit Handi-Riders. Last year was a great success, and with your help, we hope to expand on the success of last years turnout; look forward to seeing you there!

Equines: Contributions of a different kind...

Do you or someone you know, have a horse looking for a good home? Handi-Riders is seeking sound and willing equines to aid our riders in their equestrian pursuits. Our volunteers will tell you, a good Handi-Rider mount is dependable, tolerant, quiet, willing, bomb-proof and knows how to nap on cue. Potential equines must be structurally sound, willing to accept both saddle and bridle, and be able to comfortably maintain walk, trot and stand quietly. Several of our riders are learning to canter, so a horse with a slow, controlled canter is also a plus. Horses need to be able to accommodate a variety of riders and skill levels.

Handi-Riders provides additional desensitization to props and equipment, as needed for program inclusion.

For more information or to donate a potential horse, please contact our horse manager, Chris Latouche at 533-5333.

