



Hey, who's your party pony?

Country Ride 'N Roll September 19
King Bee and Buddy Remembered
Hot Summer Horse Show Results



Our Mission:
to provide children & youth with disabilities the opportunity to grow & develop through recreational activities with horses

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Trail ride, rodeo demos and benefit concert make for day of fun at Country Ride 'N Roll!

Rodeo action, hit songs performed by their creators, scrumptious food, and trail riding on a scenic 300-acre farm in Williamson County highlight this year's **Avenue Bank Country Ride 'N Roll** for Saddle Up!.

Set for Saturday, September 19, the Country Ride 'N Roll offers two events in one day. The first is the trail ride, which features open riding on the park-like trails of the farm. Riding begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 2 p.m. The second event is the benefit concert from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. that night. Both events take place on the farm of **Sarah** and **David Ingram**, who graciously open up the farm for this event.

Rodeo action at the trail ride

This year, special guest **Alina Bonacquista** will demonstrate barrel racing and other rodeo skills, sign autographs, and visit with event attendees during the trail ride. Alina was the 2008-2009 Miss Teen Rodeo Tennessee, serving through July 2009. In addition, she recently received the Gold Award, the highest award given by the Girl Scouts, and was on the 4-H horse judging team that won First Place in the state. Alina was also selected as one of only 20 young trainers for the "extreme Mustang makeover," which gives the trainer 90 days to train a wild Mustang yearling.

Little cowpokes (and big ones if they choose) can test their barrel racing skills with stick horses in the outdoor arena during the day. They can also learn more about the fine art of roping with Saddle Up!'s own wrangling volunteer "Cowboy Kevin" Shoemake, who will give "lasso on" demonstrations.

Other non-trail ride activities include petting ponies, hay rides, face painting, and games. A fresh off the grill lunch of burgers, hot dogs, and veggie burgers with the fixins', and dessert will again be prepared by the **Men of St. Paul**. Of course, the heart of the daytime event is riding the beautiful trails on Duke It Out Farm. It's an opportunity to ride on wonderful trails through woods with scenic vistas.

"Each year we try to add something to make the daytime event more fun," said **Teri Edmonson**, this year's Country Ride 'N Roll event chair and parent of a Saddle Up! rider. "We know that riders love the trails because they tell us that, and we're so excited that Alina and Kevin are joining us this year."

Also during the day, Saddle Up! riders will show their support of the program with participation in their own trail ride at the farm. The 25 Saddle Up! riders who collect the most sponsorships above \$100 will be able to participate.



Alina Bonacquista 2008-2009 Miss Teen Rodeo Tennessee

Barry Dean headlines concert

Songwriter **Barry Dean** best known for his hit "God's Will", recorded by Martina McBride, will headline this year's benefit concert. Barry is a highly respected writer who has songs recorded by Reba McEntire, Carrie Underwood, Billy Ray Cyrus, Heartland, Tim McGraw, and others. He and a circle of friends will provide memorable music for the benefit concert.

The concert will take place outdoors at the main house. **Puckett's Grocery** will fire up the smoker and serve dinner near the swimming pool.

Thanks to sponsors and participants

"We're so grateful to the businesses, organizations and individuals who support this event," Teri said. "We're looking forward to a great fun and fundraising event this year!"

Country Ride 'N Roll at a glance

WHAT: Avenue Bank Country Ride 'N Roll

WHERE: Duke It Out Farm, 4105 Columbia Pike, Franklin, TN

WHEN: Saturday, September 19, 2009

Trail ride, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., open to the public

Concert, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., open to the public

COST:

Trail Ride: minimum sponsorship or donation of \$50/adult, \$100/family with children under 12 free; includes open trail riding, lunch and T-shirt. Prizes awarded for most money raised.

Concert: \$50 each includes concert, dinner by Puckett's and spirits if purchased by Sept. 16. At the gate, \$75 each. Trail riders can buy advance purchase tickets for only \$25 each or get tickets at the gate for \$50.

MORE INFORMATION:

Development Coordinator Tina Carpenter at 615-794-1150, ext. 35

tcarpenter@saddleupnashville.org or visit our website: www.saddleupnashville.org

about the cover: Dumplin the 'un-official' spokes person-pony for this year's Country Ride 'N Roll invites one and all to the festivities. Photo by Melissa Mosley and Kelly O'Brien.



Open trails beckon all riders including these colorful teens

Cabin is gone, but not far



Little Bits

Cheryl Scutt, Executive Director

As Saddle Up! returned to our full fall schedule, those families and volunteers who hadn't been at the farm over the summer undoubtedly noticed something had changed – the cabin is no longer here.

What happened? We had the opportunity to get rid of something that had minimal use, was costing us quite a bit of money for utilities, and had reached the point of needing significant repair and/or maintenance on several fronts. Faced with this situation, the Board explored several options, including whether or not we could make use

of the cabin on a regular basis, and then made the wise decision to remove it.

Originally, the game plan had been to salvage everything possible, donate those items to Habitat for Humanity's home store, and then bury the rest. The goal was to be good stewards and recycle all that could be used to help someone else.

Upon learning about that plan, our next door neighbor **Lynn Gotthard** suggested another route: let her move the cabin on to her farm and pay for all costs associated with the move. It was a win-win situation for everyone. So

the cabin is now at Lynn's and will eventually become her new home.

Moving a cabin is not a simple matter. Watching all the preparation required was fascinating. Big jacks, 80-foot trusses, and huge sets of wheels were brought to the farm for the job.

Even in this era of high tech, however, the major part of preparation required old-fashioned people power, as workmen dug out massive amounts of dirt so the jacks and other equipment could be put into place. And they did this during some really rainy, steamy weather! The project required about two months of preparation work.

The actual move took less than 10 minutes, after the truck driver had a couple of false starts before gunning it and getting the cabin in motion.

It will take a while, but the land where the cabin sat will be restored. At some point, it will also be put to use in the service of our program. A big round of applause goes to our neighbor Lynn for a great idea and to our Board for actions that were creative, flexible, fiscally sound (especially in light of current challenges in our economy), and focused on ensuring that Saddle Up!'s resources are used for the very reason we exist – to serve our special riders.

Horse heroes King Bee and Buddy remembered

It is with deep sadness that we share the news of the passing of two Saddle Up! retired horse heroes, King Bee and Buddy.

King Bee arrived at Saddle Up! in 2000 after more than two decades of service with children. He is truly a pony who did it all. He jumped fences in competitions, was in pleasure and equitation classes, and rode trails. He was Saddle Up!'s smallest pony in size, but definitely one of the biggest in heart. At Saddle Up!, he was always eager to work, as he clearly showed the day he somehow managed to get out of a pasture so he could run to the show arena where the S.U.P.E.R.

show was happening. He wanted to be part of the action, not given a day off due to age.

In 2006, Bee's service was recognized with the NARHA Region 5 Horse of the Year Award. At the end of 2007 failing eyesight led to his retirement.

After a successful career as a 4th level dressage horse, Buddy came to Saddle Up! to assist participants with many tasks, from grooming and tacking to independent riding. Buddy had a smooth, steady trot and was very reliable for those learning the art of independence. Buddy served for over four years, then happily retired at the end of the 2009

spring session. He was quickly adopted by Lori Janusky and her daughter Rebecca, where he joined former Saddle Up! stable mate Relenka.

Bee and Buddy will be long remembered and beloved by all those who knew them, especially the countless Saddle Up! riders for whom they were trusted and steady mounts - and friends. Please watch for news of a special recognition service to honor these two horse heroes.

King Bee (above) had a passion for children including Will, shown here at the 2007 Awards Banquet.

Buddy was a favorite by riders of all ages and riding levels, including Grace.



Saddle Up! condolences to Lisa Wysocky

Saddle Up! extends its condolences to Instructor Lisa Wysocky on the loss of her son, Colby Keegan, 23, who died suddenly July 25.

Colby was a talented musician who attended the Nashville School of the Arts and Nashville Community College. He loved

animals, books and reading, hiking, canoeing, browsing through thrift stores, and was a strong environmentalist. Colby was also someone who found great joy in reaching out to lend a hand to those in need. In addition to Lisa, he is survived by his grandmother, Patricia H. Wysocky

of Minnesota.

On August 12, more than 80 people participated in a "Celebration of Life" service given in Colby's honor at Centennial Park. A "Colby Keegan Memorial Scholarship" has been established to sponsor individuals at Grandpa's House, a nonprofit

organization recovery house dedicated to helping rebuild the lives of people afflicted by drugs, alcohol, or mental illness. Donations may be made to the scholarship fund at: Grandpa's House, 2479 Murfreesboro Road #183, Nashville, TN 37217 or by calling 615-586-6946.

A S'weet surprise

Everyone likes chocolate, right? Well, it's a good thing because S'weet, a wonderful candy shop in Leipers Fork, just celebrated its one year anniversary and donated 10% of their sales for two days to Saddle Up!. Owner Deborah Schertz presented Development Coordinator Tina Carpenter with a check for \$200 PLUS her husband's company matched it with another \$200. Thank you to all who love chocolate and Saddle Up!.

Another sweet opportunity – please vote for Saddle Up!

The Christie Cookie Company is donating a total of \$25,000 to charities. From now through October 15, you may nominate your favorite charity to win. The most nominated charity will receive a check for \$10,000. The runner-up wins \$5,000, and the next 10 will receive \$1,000 each. Visit our website at www.saddleupnashville.org for the direct link to vote.

Make note!

Saddle Up! note cards make perfect gift

Looking for that special something to serve as a holiday gift? Then look no further than note cards from Saddle Up!.

The cards feature the 10 art contest winners, who were selected from about 60 works created by Saddle Up! program participants. Each note card set has the 10 winning entries.

Cost is only \$10 a set and the funds support the Saddle Up! program. To purchase a set, just talk with one of the Saddle Up! staff at the farm. You can have them mailed for an additional cost.

Thanks to Tractor Supply Company for sponsoring the printing of the cards, to Dye, Van Mol & Lawrence Public Relations for assisting with the production, and especially to the wonderful Saddle Up! artists for their creative works.



Pick a pony

Saddle Up! horses need sponsors

We have two fantastic new horses (and several not so new ones) who are ready and eager to start the fall session, but who need sponsors. Nelly arrived in May and passed her trial period with flying colors. She is a 14.3h, 18-year-old gray quarter horse mare who used to be a hunter/jumper lesson horse and belonged to one of our volunteers, Lindsey Rosen.

In June, Patchy arrived, also compliments of

a former volunteer, Debbie Enos. He is a 14.1h, 17-year-old pinto gelding who is a former trail horse. He is in the middle of his trial period and will be ready for a permanent job soon.

For a gift of only \$1,000 (or more if you please), you can sponsor one of these horses or another horse from our herd for a year. Your sponsorship will help underwrite costs for feed, medical, and farrier care. In return, your name will be on an engraved plate with the photo of

your sponsored horse on our Wall of Fame in the barn. You will also receive a color photo of your horse and will be recognized in our newsletters. Plus you may receive special mail straight from your horses's mouth!

For more information, please contact Tina Carpenter, Development Coordinator, at 615-794-1150, ext. 35 or tcarpenter@saddleupnashville.org.

Recent Grants

- Cal Turner Family Foundation
 - Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Cooperative
 - PETCO
 - Woodmont Christian Church
- If you know of an organization that awards grants for which Saddle Up! may qualify, please contact Tina Carpenter, Development Coordinator
615-794-1150 extension 35
tcarpenter@saddleupnashville.org

Hey Twitter fans

Twitter fans, the Community Foundation has a new 10-week giveaway for nonprofits suggested through their followers tweets. If you tweet, please promote Saddle Up! Learn how to make your tweet by clicking on the link from our website www.saddleupnashville.org.

Yes! I would like to make a donation to the Saddle Up! program with my contribution of:

\$2,000 \$1,000 \$500 \$200 \$100 \$50 \$25 other

Please make checks payable to Saddle Up! or charge my Visa/Mastercard

#: _____ Card Expires: _____

Print Name on Card: _____ Signature: _____

Donor's Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

Yes, I would like more information about becoming a volunteer!

You may be able to designate your gift to Saddle Up! if your employer has a campaign for multiple agencies such as Community Health Charities, the United Way, or a company-based campaign. Please check with your campaign coordinator on how to have your donation go to Saddle Up!. We appreciate your support! Your gift may be doubled if your employer has a matching gift program.

Please see your personnel department today!

Saddle Up! is a nonprofit Section 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to help children and youth with disabilities grow and develop through recreational activities with horses. Your donation is deductible to the full extent of the law.

Thank You to Our Donors

Saddle Up! is deeply grateful to each donor who chooses to make a positive difference with a gift supporting our program. Each donation is vital to bringing our mission to life. Throughout the year, we have the opportunity to spotlight your support with recognition in our newsletters. If we have omitted or incorrectly listed your name, please call Development Coordinator Tina Carpenter so that we may correct your information. Also, for more information about how to join the Hoofing Society or become a horse sponsor, please call Tina. Thank you for your support.

The Hoofing Society

\$10,000 & Up

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Saddle Up! Horse Sponsors

Thanks to all who made Grand Prix and Chukkers successes

Thanks to everyone whose support and hard work helped make the Music Country Grand Prix and Chukkers for Charity successes this year.

“Although we don’t have the final dollar totals at this time, we know the events attracted great interest and will provide significant funds to support our program,” said

Executive Director Cheryl Scutt. “Both had exciting new additions this year – the Paddock at the Pavilion at the Grand Prix and the unique auto show before the polo match at Chukkers.

“We’re especially grateful to all of the sponsors for this year’s events, many of whom went the extra mile to support the events

despite challenges of the current economy,” she added. “Their support made a big difference in the success of the events.”

Special thanks to:

- Grand Prix Co-Chairs [Sarah Ingram](#) and [Jennifer Pennington](#), and presenting sponsor [Tractor Supply Company](#).
- Chukkers Co-Chairs [DeeDee](#)

[Wade, Falon Veit](#), and [Campbell West](#), plus Honorary Chair [Cathy Brown](#) and the gracious hosts for the event, [Lee Ann](#) and [Orrin Ingram](#).

- The army of volunteers who so generously pitched in to help with set up, parking, tear down, and all the other myriad of tasks involved in producing an event. We couldn’t do it without you!

Thank You to Our Donors - Continued

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Wish List

Student/Volunteer Needs

- Donations to ridership fund
- Small bottles of water

Equine Needs

- 15.3 - 16.2 h horse with previous training
- Happy Mouth snaffle bits
- English saddles
- Fly spray
- Dressage pads
- Massages for horses
- Horse & pony english leather headstalls
- Average size horse halters with adjustable chin & crown
- Gift cards from Judy's Tack

Facility Needs

- Gift cards from Tractor Supply and Home Depot
- 4-6 Passenger Golf Cart
- Pitch forks & muck buckets
- Low suds laundry detergent
- Horse and cat sponsors
- 3-hole punch paper for copies and printing
- Multi-media laptop computer
- Gift cards to office supply stores
- White & color 8.5 x 11 copy paper
- Small portable sound system

Thanks

Lee Ann Ingram and Morgan Plunkett recognized for their volunteer service

Congratulations to Lee Ann Ingram and Morgan Plunkett for recent awards given in recognition of their outstanding volunteer service.

Lee Ann was awarded the [Mary Catherine Strobel Volunteer Innovator Award](#), which recognizes individuals or groups who have designed creative volunteer programs, practices or responses to address unmet community needs, or have taken a creative approach to an existing

program or agency.

She received the award in recognition of her work with [Centerstone](#), the nation's largest provider of community-based behavioral health care. Her passion for helping youth inspired a unique vision, providing teens with resources they can access in the privacy of their own homes. After years of planning, Centerstone launched Coaching 4 Teens, an interactive, online program available free of charge to teens

ages 13 to 18. Coaching 4 Teens allows adolescents to receive counseling in the privacy of their own homes. Ingram's efforts have provided Middle Tennessee teens access to support and tools necessary to succeed and thrive in life. Lee Ann and her husband Orrin have been long time friends and supporters of Saddle Up!, including hosting the annual Chukkers for Charity fundraising polo match at their farm.

Morgan was a finalist for the

[Mary Catherine Strobel Youth Volunteer Award](#), in recognition of her many years of volunteer service at Saddle Up!.

In addition, Morgan was chosen for the inaugural [Youth Volunteer Award](#) by [Franklin Tomorrow](#). The judges said they had discussed having a youth award, but Morgan's entry was so compelling that it propelled them to initiate the award this year.

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Paula Brown	Lisa McKinless
Tina Carpenter	Jane Muir
Kate Cole	Kelly O'Brien
Anne Craig	Mary-Jo Patterson
Alicia Dunwiddie	Katy Reed
Alice Duva	Nancy Swindell
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Susan Gregory
Outside contributors
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SUN Lite - News in Brief

Students sizzle at summer shows

A handful of Saddle Up! riders traveled throughout Tennessee this summer and captured not only great memories but also a rainbow of ribbons. These students worked diligently during the summer session preparing for these shows.

Elvis and Nelson made themselves right at home in Cleveland, Tennessee at the Rainbow Riders Show, so much so that Elvis did NOT want to leave the building. Thanks to Instructors Tina Carpenter, Anne Craig, Lynne Evans, and Lesson Assistant Alex Wood for their time off to travel with the team.

Staff members Kim Kline, Instructors Kelly O'Brien, Nancy Swindell, Lindsey Wood, and volunteer Amelia Nennstiel traveled east with Elvis and Samba to Lenoir City, Tennessee to the STAR Show. Elvis and Samba assisted the Saddle Up! riders to victory in many events. A huge Saddle Up! shout out to Amelia's parents, Mr. & Mrs. George Nennstiel, who graciously let Kim and Kelly stay at their house overnight in exchange for decorating suggestions!

Reinbow Riders Horse Show results

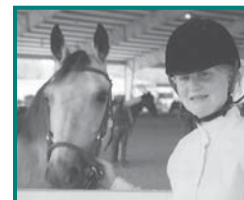
Cameron – 1st in equitation, 1st in obstacle

Grace – 1st in equitation, 3rd in obstacle

Julie – 1st in equitation, 4th in dressage

Preston – 3rd in equitation, 2nd in obstacle

(top to bottom) Grace
Julie with Elvis
and Preston



STAR Horse Show results

Ashley – 2nd in obstacle, 3rd in futures, 5th in equitation

Cameron – 1st in obstacle, 1st in Futures, 1st in equitation,

John – 1st in obstacle, 1st in Futures, 2nd in equitation

(left to right) John, Ashley, and Cameron (who also rode in the Reinbow Riders Horse Show mentioned above)



Grace Gregory brings home awards from regional and national shows

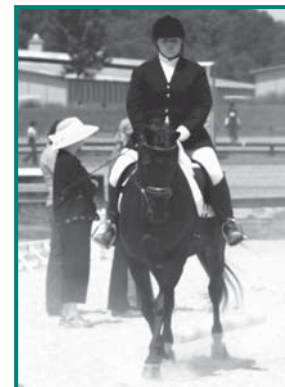
Grace Gregory showed her winning ways this summer when she competed at the Regional Pony Club show in Lexington, KY and at the Lendon Gray Youth Dressage Festival in Saugerties, NY.

Grace, 15, won the high point trophy for her dressage musical freestyle at the Pony Club competition in June. A former Saddle Up! rider and current volunteer, Grace is a member of the Middle Tennessee Pony Club. She was featured in a big story in *The Tennessean* before the Festival.

At the three-day Festival, Grace competed in dressage equitation, training level dressage tests, and musical freestyle. She also had to compete in a written test about horsemanship, horse management, and stable management. Grace received scores and points for everything she did. At the end of the Festival, Grace won several awards including: the highest score on the written test for her age group, 14-17, which is a significant achievement in and of itself but even more so because Grace has had challenges with reading and writing; highest points for riding for her age group and division, which included 45 riders, and the Grand Championship of ALL the 125 training level riders! And she did it riding a borrowed horse named Louie! Grace's horse, Opie, could not make the trip to New York due to an arthritis problem, so Grace had not ridden Louie until the competition.

Grace won a beautiful dressage schooling jacket and a new dressage saddle with all the fittings. "We are so proud of her," beamed Lynne Evans, who was Grace's instructor at Saddle Up! and continues to teach her dressage as an individual student. "I always knew she could ride, but this is an extraordinary achievement!"

Lynne explained that Drea Gunness, a family friend and Grace's trainer, had contacted Lendon and told her about Grace and her dressage riding ability. Lendon is a former Olympic dressage rider. Lendon loaned Louie to Grace for the Festival competition. Grace also got a helping hand from Teresa Hartsaw and Andrew Hartsaw-Jaeckle, new owners of the Saddle Springs Equestrian Center, who sponsored Grace and mom Susan for the trip to New York. A big thanks to all of them for their support.



Grace and Louie seem to float above the sand during the Lendon Gray Youth Dressage Festival in New York

The Dedicated S.U.V.



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Rockin' Around the farm with Currey Ingram elementary students

In early April, Saddle Up! met some of the best rockhounds in town. A group of Kindergarten through 3rd grade students from Currey Ingram Academy joined us for a rock gathering extravaganza. This young group created a huge pile of rocks that came from the outdoor arena, the obstacle course, and the alleyway from the barn out to the Matthews Meadow pasture. Despite the brisk winds and the chilly temperatures, all of these children did a fabulous job of helping to improve the footing for our horses. Thank you very much.



Currey Ingram students lend helping hands

Currey Ingram teen team challenge

Later in April, Saddle Up! was lucky enough to have a group of students from Currey Ingram Academy help with some farm chores. Students, ages 13 and 14, showed up ready to do some dirty work. Initially they removed all the dirt and hair from all our herd's brushes and their brush boxes. They broke into two teams armed with muck buckets, shovels, and pitch forks and went to work removing all horse patty piles from the paddocks. Even though most teens would have requested to be finished after this job, they continued by removing all large rocks from the paddock areas. The teams tried to out do one another and see who could pick up the most manure. By the time they finished, the paddocks were clean and the manure spreader was ready to be dumped. Thank you for all the hard work.



Currey Ingram teens not afraid to work hard

Quick hands make for quick sand removal thanks to Harpeth Presbyterian Church youth

On a very hot day in June, the earth moved with a little help from the Harpeth Presbyterian Church youth group. An energetic combination of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders chose to spend their afternoon helping others and we are glad they chose us. A large amount of sand had washed out of our outdoor arena with thanks to the spring rains and it needed help getting back where it belonged. It was a tedious process, with people shoveling sand into buckets and the bucket brigade walking it back into the arena to dump it. It was not a summer vacation day at the beach, but with a little imagination you could almost hear the seagulls. Thank you, friends, for your efforts.



Harpeth Presbyterian Church youth paused briefly only for a photo opportunity

Let's hear it for the girls



Ashley, Rosie and Savannah (left to right), when not riding a horse at Saddle Up!, all cheer together for the Music City Thunder Wheelchair Basketball team through ABLE Youth. They enjoy learning new cheers and dance routines, traveling to out of state tournaments, and performing at half-time college and high school games. It is not uncommon to hear their cheers and see them waving pompons from horseback. Way to go, girls!

Year at a Glance

September

- 4-7 No lessons, offices closed, Labor Day
- 12 Leader Training 12-2:30pm
- 17 New Volunteer Training 10am – 2:30pm
- 18-19 No lessons, offices closed
- 19 *Country Ride 'N Roll*
- 26 New Volunteer Training 1:30 – 4pm

October

- 3 Leader Training 12-2:30pm
- 8 New Volunteer Training 10am – 2:30pm
- 9 New Volunteer Training 11:30 – 4pm
- 12-17 No lessons, fall break
- 23-24 No lessons
- 24 *S.U.P.E.R. Show and Annual Awards*

November

- 7 Leader Training 12-2:30pm
- 12 New Volunteer Training 10am – 2:30pm
- 14 New Volunteer Training 11:30 – 4pm
- 18-22 *NARHA National Conference, Fort Worth*
- 23-28 No lessons
- 26-28 Offices closed, Thanksgiving

December

- 3 New Volunteer Training 10am – 2:30pm
- 5 New Volunteer Training 11:30 – 4pm
- 12 Session 2 lessons end
- 14-31 No lessons
- 14-16 *NARHA On-site Workshop & Certification*
- 23-25 Offices closed, Christmas

Please visit our website for continued updates to our calendar, including volunteer trainings, clinics, and other activities at www.saddleupnashville.org and www.facebook.com/saddleupnashville