



# “Saddle Up! Homecoming 2011” to mark 20th anniversary

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

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Nancy Oglin-Swindell

Prepare now for a year to remember!  
In 2011, Saddle Up! will mark its 20th year as a legally incorporated nonprofit organization with a mission to serve children and youth who have disabilities through a recreational therapeutic horseback riding program.

“We’re really looking forward to celebrating this special anniversary and have been hard at work this year laying the groundwork for a year to remember,” said Executive Director Cheryl Scutt. “We’ve got great volunteer leadership with [Lisa McInturff](#) and [Ken Wilmes](#) co-chairing the overall, year-long anniversary celebration, and [Joe Gallivan](#) heading up special fundraising for our endowment. It will be a year of sharing memories, celebrating our history, and strengthening our foundation for the future of this program.”

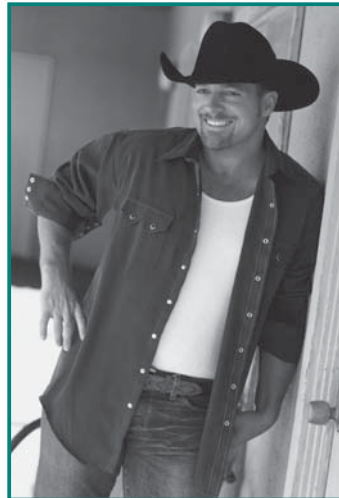
Kicking off the year will be “[Chris Cagle Unbridled: Celebrating 20 Years of Saddle Up!](#),” a one-night-only benefit concert staged at the War Memorial Auditorium in Nashville. Volunteer [Janet Wilkins](#) is chairing

the event, which will take place Saturday, February 12, 2011. Tickets are available now through TPAC and range from \$35 to \$65.

“Chris is a charismatic performer and a passionate supporter of Saddle Up!,” Cheryl said. “He and Janet have been working very closely to make this a night to remember. Thanks to the generosity of Hotel Indigo, we’ll have a pre-concert reception at their location on Union for our sponsors and VIPS, plus a limited number of reception tickets will be available to the public for only \$50.

“If you’ve never seen Chris perform live, you’re in for an experience! Expect to be on your feet when Chris performs his hits such as ‘I Breathe In, I Breathe Out,’ ‘My Love Goes On and On,’ ‘Laredo,’ ‘What a Beautiful Day,’ ‘What Kinda Gone’ and ‘Chicks Dig It.’ Plus, you’ll get to hear new material from his upcoming album, and there are planned appearances by [Clay Walker](#) and other of Chris’ country music friends.

(Cagle continued on page six)



## Calling all memories

We need your help. To mark the 20th anniversary, we are gathering stories, photos, memorabilia or anything that is part of the Saddle Up! history. If you have memories to share, please contact Development Coordinator Tina Carpenter at [tcarpenter@saddleupnashville.org](mailto:tcarpenter@saddleupnashville.org) or 615-794-1150 extension 35. Throughout the year, we’ll share the human and horse stories, events, places and more that have helped make Saddle Up! the program it is today through our newsletters, website, Facebook pages, special projects and at the fall homecoming celebration. Thanks for your help.

about the cover: Ashley S. competes in the 2010 S.U.P.E.R. Show aboard her favorite horse Nacho. Her leader is Saddle Up! Lesson Assistant and former Saddle Up! rider Grace G..



This photo is an example of a special moment in the history of Saddle Up!. It is the groundbreaking ceremony for the property at our current location.

Please contact Development Coordinator Tina Carpenter if you have photos of people, horses, places, events or activities to share for the 20th anniversary celebration.

# A cornucopia of thanks to all who are in the Saddle Up! family

The holiday season is upon us. The Thanksgiving feast of fowl and football is a recent memory. Visions of sugarplums (or better yet the delights of decadent chocolates), gatherings of family and friends, presence of presents, tree trimmings, decorating, and celebrating the reason for the season all lie ahead.

So, this is an excellent time to share the word we can never say enough: THANKS!

*Thanks to our riders* who daily remind us of why we are here and to their families for entrusting their children to the program. All that we have, all that we do, and all that we strive to become is in the service of these special young people.

*Thanks to our volunteers.* Saddle Up! was founded by volunteers and remains a volunteer-driven organization. Nearly 300 individuals give generously of their time, talents, energy and love for this program to work. A special thanks from me to our [Board](#). A nonprofit organization can never achieve its full potential without a great Board. Fortunately, we are

blessed to have a wonderful Board whose vision, leadership, governance and hard work have consistently led to Saddle Up! being a solid organization in all respects.

*Thanks to our donors.* To all the individuals, businesses and foundations that have chosen to support us, please know that we deeply appreciate what you do. We work hard every day to be good stewards of what you give. This is a great program, but it is not a cheap one. It

“Each of you – riders, families, volunteers, donors, and staff (human and horse) – is a member of the Saddle Up! family.”

costs about \$150 to provide one lesson for one child. Multiply that by more than 4,500 lessons, and you’ll quickly see why we ask for your support. Each gift – whether it’s \$5 or \$5,000 – makes a difference. We could not make this program available without your generosity.

*Thanks to our staff.* Compassion and competence come together with these dedicated professionals. Both qualities are essential to making the Saddle Up! program the highest



## Little Bits

Cheryl Scutt, Executive Director  
615-794-1150 extension 34  
cscutt@saddleupnashville.org

quality and safest possible. Our staff brings more than 180 YEARS of experience in therapeutic recreational riding programs to Saddle Up!.

*Thanks to our horses.* This is definitely a case where last is not least. These glorious animals embody strength, grace and spirit. Their physical movement can’t be matched by any piece of man-made therapy equipment, and their nature touches us in ways that remain mysterious.

Each of you – riders, families, volunteers, donors, and staff (human and horse) – is a member of the Saddle Up! family. You provide a cornucopia of blessings to Saddle Up! every day and for that we give thanks year-round. Happy holidays!

## Country Ride 'N Roll sees record numbers at trail ride and concert

The Avenue Bank Country Ride 'N Roll on September 18 saw record numbers of participants for the daytime trail ride and a sold-out evening concert featuring songwriters whose performance had the crowd as quiet as an audience at the famed Bluebird.

This year, nearly 30 riders from the general public brought their horses to the gorgeous Duke It Out Farm, graciously opened up by Sarah and David Ingram for this event, to ride on the park-like trails of the 300-acre farm. In addition, 24 Saddle Up! riders raised funds to participate in their own special trail ride at the event. Top fundraisers for the year were Barb Laifer for the general public riders and Connor B., who marked his fifth consecutive year as top fundraiser for the Saddle Up! riders.

The event raised more than \$33,000 for Saddle Up!.

Special thanks to our sponsors: Avenue Bank, A Step Ahead, Duke It Out Farm, Ingram Entertainment, memo PR, Janet Wilkins, boonedocks distributing, Jubilee beer, Mike Copelin Management Group, Purina, trewaudio, Kids on Stage. And for their special support: Bonnie’s Barnyard, Buca di Beppo, FarmVet, Franklin Horse Supplies, Little House Animal Hospital, Whole Foods, Tractor Supply Company, Tennessee Performing Arts Center, Sambuca and Lowe’s.

A standing ovation (which is what they got) to the amazing songwriters who so generously gave of their talents – John Bettis, Gary Nicholson and Don Schlitz – and to

our personal “talent scout,” Bonnie Garner for securing the artists for the evening, and guitarist Jerry Kimborough.

Last but not least to all the riders, families, friends, and volunteers – especially event chair Teri Edmonson – who came together to make this a fun fundraising day!

Photos courtesy of Rick Lance



Scenes from the 2010 Avenue Bank Country Ride 'N Roll included fun times for attendees (photos at far left and bottom far right), a special presentation by Saddle Up! riders Savannah M. and Ashley H. (second photo from left), and amazing music by the stellar lineup of songwriters (photo top right).



## Golf tourney benefits Saddle Up!

American Constructors presented Saddle Up! with a check for \$15,000 after naming Saddle Up! a beneficiary of the Ed Rodgers, Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament held at Nashville Golf & Athletic Club on September 13.

## Grant provides scholarships

A spirited thank you to the Wells Fargo for awarding a \$5,000 grant to Saddle Up! in September. The funding will provide support for the Saddle Up! rider scholarship program.



Executive Director Cheryl Scutt accepts the check from American Constructors representatives, Quick Foy and Angel Choate, with Development Director Knox Brewer, for the recent golf tourney. Quick is also a Saddle Up! Board member.



Knox Brewer, Development Director  
615-794-1150 extension 32  
kbrewer@saddleupnashville.org

## Grant Information

If you know of an organization that awards grants for which Saddle Up! may qualify, please contact Knox Brewer, Development Director  
615-794-1150 extension 32  
kbrewer@saddleupnashville.org



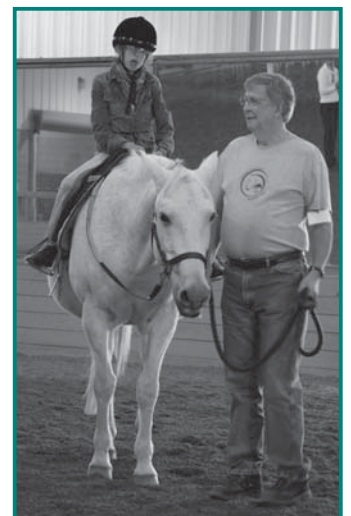
Saddle Up! 2010 Graduates  
Austin C., Kurtis H., Matthew B.,  
Moses S., Preston E., and Sam W.  
(photos left to right, top and bottom.)

## S.U.P.E.R. Show celebration and bittersweet good byes

Saturday, October 16, 2010 marked the annual Saddle Up! Phenomenal Equestrian Riders (S.U.P.E.R.) Show and was granted an unseasonably beautiful day filled with blue skies and warm temperatures. Saddle Up! riders competed against skillful riders from STAR, then left the arena with a rainbow of ribbons.

We congratulate the following 2010 Trophy Winners - **Jakob C. of STAR**, Caroline Kirk Memorial Challenged Rider Basic Obstacle; **Campbell M. of Saddle Up!**, Luella Jeffery Challenged Rider High Point; **Randy A. of Saddle Up!**, Lynne Evans Challenged Rider Basic Equitation; **Michelle L. of STAR**, Lynne Evans Dressage Award.

During intermission, Saddle Up! celebrated the graduation of six participants. **Austin C., Kurtis H., Matthew B., Moses S., Preston E., and Sam W.** were all in attendance at the ceremony. One by one they heard from their Instructors about how great an impact they have made on the Saddle Up! family and how much they will be missed. Each graduate received an embroidered "2010 Saddle Up! Graduate" polo shirt, a Certificate of Achievement, and a framed photograph of themselves signed by staff and volunteers. Combined, these six riders represent over 50 years of riding lessons at Saddle Up!. Thank you graduates for all the hard work and dedication that you put into the program. We will miss you all dearly.



Moments from the 2010 S.U.P.E.R. Show include Deanna Y. riding Elvis through the obstacle course, Zach C. and his brother Alexander, Kalli Tucker K. aboard Nelly with leader Jim Hilton, and Randall A. with his parents Carlton and Phyllis. (photos from upper left clockwise.)

# 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 contact Development Director Knox Brewer at 615-794-1150 extension 32 or [kbrewer@saddleupnashville.org](mailto:kbrewer@saddleupnashville.org) so that we may correct your information. Also, for more information about how to join the Hoofing Society or become a horse sponsor, please contact Knox. Thank you for your support.

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An ear to ear smile  
is served up when  
Robert W. rides his  
horse Nacho.



B.H.

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## Wish List

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- Donations to ridership fund

### Equine Needs

- English pony saddles
- Size 70 winter turnout blanket
- Size 75/78 winter blankets
- Horse & pony English leather headstalls
- Average size horse halters with adjustable chin & crown
- Gift cards for Judy's Tack Shop

### Facility Needs

- Heavy duty, 4-wheel trailer
- Gift cards for Tractor Supply Co. or Home Depot
- 4-6 Passenger golf cart
- Pitch forks & muck buckets
- Multi-media laptop computer
- Gift cards to office supply stores
- White & color 8.5 x 11 copy paper
- Small portable sound system

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SUN Lite - News in Brief

Country Music Hall of Fame honors Bonnie Garner for music industry achievements

Our own Bonnie Garner was honored Nov. 16 at the Fourth Annual Louise Scruggs Memorial Forum, presented by the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum and the Gibson Foundation. The Forum was established in 2007 to honor music industry leaders who can be seen as legatees of Ms. Scruggs, who was the wife of Country Music Hall of Fame member Earl Scruggs and the first woman in country music to take on the roles of booker and manager.

Bonnie was called "a visionary music industry executive" for her work that included being the first woman A&R executive (responsible for discovering new talent and bringing them to record labels) at Columbia Records pop music division in New York. During her tenure there, she worked with Dan Fogelberg, Billy Joel, Bruce Springsteen and many others.

In 1973, she moved to

Nashville to set up Columbia and Epic Records' first Nashville pop division. She later joined the labels' country division as director of A&R. In 1984, she was promoted to vice president of A&R, the first woman to attain that position at CBS Records and one of the few to do so in the entire music industry.

Bonnie later became a talent manager with clients that included Emmylou Harris, the Highwaymen, Kris Kristofferson, Roger Miller, Willie Nelson, the O'Kanes, Lynn Anderson, Lee Roy Parnell, and Marty Stuart. She received a Grammy Award in 2002 for co-producing Timeless, a tribute album to Hank Williams.

Earlier in her career she was a talent booker for legendary television shows, including The Dick Cavett Show. She booked diverse talent including Joe



Saddle Up! NARHA Registered Instructor Bonnie Garner shown with her student Seth D. and his mount Cheyenne at the 2010 S.U.P.E.R Show .

Cocker, the Grateful Dead, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Ike and Tina Turner, Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and Frank Zappa.

Bonnie retired from the music industry in 2007, devoting much of her free time to her lifelong passion of working with animals. She is involved with animal rescue, animal fostering, and was a Saddle Up! volunteer. In 2009, Bonnie earned her NARHA Instructor certification and began teaching at Saddle Up!. Congratulations, Bonnie, for a much deserved honor!

Anniversary, featuring Chris Cagle

(Continued from page one)

"War Memorial is one of the unsung treasures of Middle Tennessee," she added. "It has amazing acoustics, making it an ideal setting for a concert like this. It also has a firm place in the history of the community, including the years it served as home to the Grand Ole Opry from 1939-1943."

The celebration will also be woven into two major Saddle Up! June fundraisers, the Music Country Grand Prix (co-chaired by Sarah Ingram and Jennifer Pennington) and Chukkers for Charity (co-chaired by Lexie Armstrong,

Cathy Brown, Valerie Levay and Theresa Menefee).

For 2011, the Country Ride 'N Roll will change from a trail ride and concert to a special homecoming day at Saddle Up! and concert. The homecoming will include a variety of activities at the farm. The concert will move to a major Middle Tennessee venue and will feature – watch for an announcement unveiling who will headline the fall concert!

"We also have other special things planned to mark this milestone year, so stay tuned!" Cheryl said. "And please do join the celebration!"

CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S AT CHRIS CAGLE CONCERT

- February 12, 2011
Tickets now on sale
TPAC web site www.tpac.org
TPAC ticket services (615) 782-4040
Downtown at TPAC 505 Deaderick St.

Convenience fees are not added to tickets purchased on site at the TPAC Office downtown.

For sponsorship opportunities, contact Knox Brewer at Saddle Up! at 615-794-1150 or kbrewer@saddleupnashville.org.

## Bustling barn welcomes five new horse heroes

The barn has been very busy the past several months welcoming in many new horses to the Saddle Up! family. From three-day eventers to trail horses, they all bring something different to the program. We have welcomed five new horses to the program since May - Opie, Cody, Beau, Chester and Harley.

Opie, a 9-year old paint gelding, joined the Saddle Up! family in May. He came to us after a very successful career showing dressage with Grace Gregory, a lesson assistant at Saddle Up! and a local pony club member. Opie brings a splash of color to the barn with his playful personality and markings.

Cody, a lovable 14-year old Quarter horse, was a children's horse showing in local shows and hitting the trails before being donated. Cody, also known as the rock star of the barn, is perfect for any rider, and is the go to guy when we need a substitute for one of the other horses.

Beau came to us after showing in the hunters and a bit of foxhunting. He is a 17-year old Quarter horse that is a perfect addition to the program with his gentle nature and amazing work ethic. Beau is on temporary sick leave and we anticipate his return to lessons in the spring.

Walking into the barn you will also start seeing spots. Chester, our loving 16-year old dun Appaloosa, joined the program in the summer of 2010. Standing at 15.3 hands, Chester is a perfect size for many of our riders. Before being donated Chester was shown by the younger sister of Equine Manager Ashley Kurtzahn in 3-day eventing.

Harley, the latest addition to the program comes to us with quite a bit of experience in therapeutic riding. After showing successfully in the Special Olympics in Georgia, his owner wanted Harley to find a home where his talent could be admired by many. Harley has settled right in, and with his sweet and calm

disposition he has fast become a barn favorite.

We've got the perfect gift idea for that hard-to-shop-for person on your Christmas list – a horse! Beau, Cheyenne, Hershey, and Muffin are all in need of sponsorship.

🎁 For your wife, how about wrapping a Hershey's kiss in a box along with a photo of *our* Hershey, the therapeutic horse?

🎁 Or better yet, a photo of *our* big Muffin along with a muffin pan in honor of mom?

Get creative, have fun, sponsor a Saddle Up! horse today! Each \$1,000 sponsorship helps provide feed, shoes, shots, bedding and tack for a year and a horse to call *your own*.

For more information on horse (or cat) sponsorships, please contact Development Coordinator Tina Carpenter at 615-794-1150, extension 35.



Kim Kline, Volunteer Coordinator  
615-794-1150 extension 23  
kkline@saddleupnashville.org

## Volunteers Needed

### New Year's Resolution

Sign up early for the upcoming spring riding session beginning in January. Monday - Saturday time slots available.

### Horse Feeders Needed

Monday & Thursday evenings

Thinking about other Christmas ideas?



Visit our website store at  
[www.saddleupnashville.org/shop](http://www.saddleupnashville.org/shop)

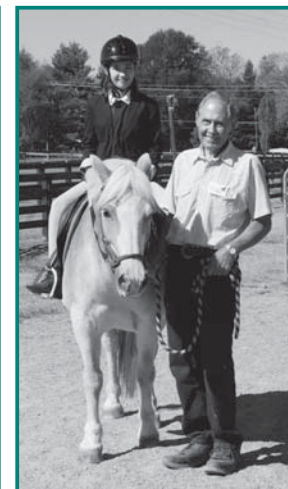
## Traveling boots – a true tale

Meaghan is a little girl who lives in Florida with a potentially terminal illness. Last summer, Meaghan was granted a wish by the Make-a-Wish Foundation. Her dream was to learn to ride a horse on a dude ranch. She and her entire family were granted a trip to a Wyoming dude ranch with all expenses paid. Everyone who was going to ride was required to have appropriate footwear which the family needed to provide themselves. This was quite an expense for an already financially strapped family. Meaghan's grandmother is a neighbor of mine. She contacted me asking if I knew where to find inexpensive boots for the family, thinking maybe someone at Saddle Up! might have some that they could borrow. I immediately thought of the Saddle Up! "boot" closet.

After we got their sizes and I raided the closet, for nearly every size required, I boxed up the boots and they were taken to Florida by Meaghan's grandmother. Meaghan and her family spent a week in Wyoming, and the pictures show a very happy little girl fulfilling her dream. The boots are back in Tennessee now, and were being returned to the closet. Generous folks who make donations to Saddle Up! have no idea how many lives they might touch when a donation is made.

– *Jane Muir, Saddle Up! Instructor*

2010 S.U.P.E.R. Show ribbon winner Wyatt M. and his sister Lillian ham it up for the camera and Emily aboard Gretel with leader Larry Pefferly. During intermission, Saddle Up! Lesson Assistant, current volunteer, and former participant, Grace G. performs a musical dressage routine for her home team crowd on her horse Bella. (photos shown from upper left clockwise.)



# THE SUN

Saddle Up! Newsletter

Fall 2010



Saddle Up! 20th Anniversary Homecoming Celebration  
Ride 'N Roll Sees Record Numbers  
S.U.P.E.R. Day in October

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