



Saddle Up! 20th Anniversary Homecoming Celebration
Awards Honor Jill Bosse, Lynne Evans and Program
Gallopig Toward Our Annual Fund Goal



THE SUN

Saddle Up! Newsletter

Joey+Rory benefit concert, Homecoming Day cap Year-long 20th Anniversary Celebration

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

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Saddle Up! will wrap up its 20th anniversary celebration with two special events – a Saturday, September 17, benefit concert by **Joey+Rory** and a Saturday, October 1, **Homecoming Day** celebration at the farm. Please plan to join us for both.

The **Rockin' for Riders benefit concert** will take place at the historic Franklin Theatre, which had its grand opening this summer culminating an \$8.7 million restoration project. Built in 1937, the Theatre was a fixture on the Franklin landscape but ceased operations in 2007. The Heritage Foundation purchased the property and began work to bring the structure back to its previous glory – and designed it to be the first LEED-certified restoration project in the city, meaning it meets national standards for green buildings.

A married duo, **Joey+Rory** are singer-songwriters who have become favorites of both fans and music industry professionals. They started their careers separately (*Please see Joey+Rory on page 6*)



Benefit Concert

- Saturday, September 17, 2011
- Concert begins at 8 p.m.
- Tickets are \$75, \$100 & \$125
- Historic Franklin Theatre
419 Main Street, Franklin
- www.franklintheatre.com
or 615-538-2075

Load up the car and join us for the 20th anniversary finale, a very special **Homecoming Day** on Saturday, October 1, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the farm. Admission is only \$10 for a car load and includes a homecoming souvenir for each car!

One highlight of the day will be a lunch-time ceremony honoring individuals, organizations and horses that have helped make Saddle Up! the organization it is today. The history will also be celebrated with special displays and other information around the farm.

Plus, there will be lots of fun activities and opportunities to learn about therapeutic riding, horses and more. These include:

- A demonstration by **J.R. Roots**, a "horse whisperer" who will show how he begins with a horse that has (*Please see Homecoming Day on page 6*)

Homecoming Day

- Saturday, October 1, 2011
- 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Saddle Up!
1549 Old Hillsboro Road, Franklin
- www.saddleupnashville.org
or 615-794-1150

Awards honor Jill Bosse, Lynne Evans and Program

Jill Bosse, Lynne Evans and our Waitlist Provisional Riders Program will all be in the spotlight at two awards ceremonies this fall.

Jill is one of three finalists for the Kraft CPA Board Member of the Year Award, which will be presented at the 2011 Center for Nonprofit Management's Salute to Excellence dinner on September 20 at the Renaissance Hotel in Nashville. The Kraft CPAs Board Member of the Year Award recognizes a board member who has shown exemplary leadership, commitment, and advocacy in his or her role on a nonprofit board. Two finalists will receive display awards and \$500 each, with the winner receiving a trophy and an unrestricted grant of \$4,000.

Completing her sixth year of Board service, Jill has led the Marketing Committee, chaired the inaugural Country Ride 'N Roll fundraising event in 2007, provided leadership on (*Please see awards on page 3*)

Cassidy C. aboard Chester, led by Saddle Up! Equine Manager and NARHA Certified Instructor Ashley Kurtzahn, proudly carry the American flag at the 2011 Grand Prix opening ceremonies. NARHA Certified Instructor Anne Craig (left) and volunteer Spencer Kurtzahn (right) complete the team as sidewalkers. Photo by Nancy Swindell

Hard to count the stars in heaven or at home

At the end of 2010, a new study by a Yale University astronomer shook the world of science with a conclusion that the number of stars could be triple the previous calculation. That would put the universal star count at 300 sextillion stars!

How big is a sextillion? Well, it takes 21 zeroes after a number to be a sextillion vs. 12 zeroes for a trillion. Any way you look at it, it's a whole lot of anything. So you can imagine, at least a little, how much of a challenge it would be to pinpoint the exact number of stars in the heavens.

On a much smaller scale, but still a challenge, is determining the number of "stars" who have been and/or still are part of Saddle Up!'s history since its beginning.

As we've been celebrating the 20th anniversary this year, we've talked about some of those stars. The more than 1,000 children served with over 37,000 lessons. The nearly 100 noble horses who have served in the program, and who many would argue are the program because without the power of the horse this program doesn't

work. The dedicated volunteers, generous donors, and committed staff are definitely stars in our constellation. And, of course, the four founders who had a dream of a therapeutic riding program to serve children and youth who have disabilities. Without their audacity to dream AND act, Saddle Up! would not be here.

The fact is, each and every person who has been a thread in the fabric of Saddle Up! is a star. Without the contributions that everyone brought and brings, this would not be the same Saddle Up!.

"Each and every person who has been a thread in the fabric of Saddle Up! is a star."

On Saturday, October 1, we will celebrate the light that all the stars – humans, horses, individuals, businesses/organizations – brought and bring to Saddle Up! at our Homecoming Day. Special displays, activities and a lunch-time ceremony will honor some of the stars individually.

If you have some person, horse, business,



Little Bits

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

organization, event or memory that you think shines exceptionally bright as a Saddle Up! star, please let me know. We are gathering memories – and photos if you care to share them – to be part of that celebration and to share in the future. We need your information by Friday, September 2.

Also, please plan now to join us at the celebration and at the Saturday, September 17, Joey+Rory benefit concert at the historic Franklin Theatre. These will be the final official events marking our 20th anniversary, and they wouldn't be complete without YOU! Shine on!

Calling for memories of Saddle Up!

We're looking for special memories about the history of Saddle Up! to share at the October 1 Homecoming Day and beyond.

If you have someone (rider, volunteer, family member, staff member or other person), a horse, an organization/business, or event that you would like to share with others, please let us know. Be sure to include:

- *Who/what is the memory?*
- *Any details you have (who, what, when, where, how):*
- *Why do you think this memory is special?*
- *What difference do you think this person, horse, organization/business or event made to Saddle Up!?*

- *Any additional information you feel is important.*
- *Your name and the best way to contact you (phone with the best number or email with your email address).*

Please submit your information by Friday, September 2. You can drop off your written information, mail it, or email mail it to: Cheryl Scutt, Executive Director, Saddle Up!, 1549 Old Hillsboro Road, Franklin, TN 37069 or cscutt@saddleupnashville.org.



Chris Piloski (left) and Riding Instructor Patti Simpson (right) team up with rider Jenny M. aboard Hi There at a horse show in the late 1990's.



Instructor candidates from seven states recently attended the NARHA workshop at Saddle Up!.

Saddle Up! hosts NARHA workshop

In August, Saddle Up! hosted the workshop and certification sessions for candidates wanting to earn certification as a Registered Instructor by NARHA, the national organization that sets the standards for quality and safety in equine-assisted programs. 12 instructor candidates from seven states, including Tennessee, participated in one or both sessions. Saddle Up! had several participating in the Saddle Up! Instructor in Training program this year and attending the workshop. The program helps candidates prepare for the national certification and provides 25 hours of supervised teaching required to be eligible for national certification. This is part of the ongoing commitment Saddle Up! has to the field of equine assisted programs and training opportunities for Instructors.



Jill Bosse

(awards continued from page 1) strategic planning and served as Board President for three years. She's also rolled up her shirt sleeves to help set up cabanas at Chukkers for Charity, completed volunteer training, served as a sidewalker in lessons and helped with other events. As the parent of a Saddle Up! rider, she is a firm and passionate believer in the power of the horse to change lives and a tireless champion to raise friends and funds to make our program possible.

Also during the Salute to Excellence, the Saddle Up! Waitlist Provisional Riders Program will be honored as a finalist for the Frist Foundation's Innovation in Action Award. This award recognizes organizations that have developed innovative approaches, either large or small-scale, to improve organizational effectiveness or client service. The waitlist program was created by Saddle Up! to provide an



Lynne Evans

opportunity to children who are on our waiting list to experience the benefits of riding. The waitlist program grew from 136 in July 2006 to more than 300 today. Working within existing resources, the program makes it possible for an average of 70 waitlist children to ride during the year. The program doesn't get the child off the list, or move them up or down the list, but it does get them interacting with a horse. And that's what we're all about.

Saddle Up! co-founder and current part-time Instructor – and all-time inspiration extraordinaire – Lynne Evans has won the Region 5 Instructor of the Year Award from NARHA, the national organization that sets the standards for safety and quality in equine assisted

programs. The award recognizes "center instructors who are compassionate and creative teachers and leaders who are critical to the success of any therapeutic riding center." Lynne could have been used as the model to create that description. Lynne was also the 2003 NARHA Region 5 Volunteer of the Year.

An accomplished dressage rider, Lynne has equal passions for all things horses and all things children. In addition to more than 20 years of service to Saddle Up!, Lynne served as the coach for the Special Olympics Equestrian Team in 1995, when Saddle Up! rider JoAnn Cotton won a gold medal for English equitation. She also taught Grace Gregory, both as a Saddle Up! rider and then independent rider, who won the high point award for dressage at a national competition in New York in 2010. All of her students get gold medal coaching and teaching so they can be the best equestrian possible. Lynne will be honored at the November 11 NARHA awards banquet in Lexington, KY, when the national Instructor of the Year will be named.

Congratulations!!



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

Volunteers Needed

Saddle Up! offers a variety of volunteer opportunities.

Please visit our website at www.saddleupnashville.org for new volunteer training dates and times.

Summer 'fun'-raising wrap ups

The 23rd Annual Music Country Grand Prix held on June 4 at Brownland Farm was a huge success! This year's event added new features including a silent auction headed up by

auction chair Deborah Lovett and a Post Party for event goers and horse show exhibitors alike. Blessed with a beautiful June day, Alex Granato and Gangsta rode to victory and the \$30,000 purse. The Music Country Grand Prix is Middle

Tennessee's premier stadium jumping competition. Thanks to the hard work of event co-chairs, Sarah Ingram and Jennifer Pennington, this year's Grand Prix raised a record amount, over \$100,000 to support Saddle Up!.

The Music Country Grand Prix is the single largest annual fundraising event for Saddle Up!.

The 15th Annual Chukkers for Charity Polo Match & Car Show held on June 18 at Riverview Farm proved to be anything but lukewarm with this year's event theme: Hot & Cool in Havana. Presented by Infiniti, Chukkers for Charity welcomed a patrons' tent full of enthusiasts, amazing classic cars that dazzled the crowd, and dozens of cabanas decorated in festive fashion. A live salsa band entertained in the patrons' tent following the match and



Photo by Bill Kenner.

dinner. Chukkers for Charity raised a record \$165,000 to benefit Saddle Up! and the Rochelle Center. A big thanks to event co-chairs Lexie Armstrong, Cathy Brown, Valerie Levay, and Theresa Menefee for such a wonderful evening, and to Lee Ann and Orrin Ingram who again graciously opened their home, Riverview Farm, for the event.



Photo by Nancy Swindell.



Galloping Toward Our Goal

2011 Annual Fund Campaign Update



\$49,000
August 1, 2011

\$125,000 Goal
December 2011

FINISH



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

Thank you to those who have already given. Please help us raise another \$76,000 by December 31, 2011. Your gift today will assist us with meeting our operating expenses providing help with things like feed and care for our horses, tack, support for our instructors and volunteer program. Over the past twenty years, Saddle Up! has provided lessons to over 1,000 children, provided over 37,000 lessons, and been home to more than 100 noble horses who have served our program.

Lynne Evans
Saddle Up! Co-Founder, 2011 Annual Fund Chair,
NARHA Certified Riding Instructor

Please donate online
www.saddleupnashville.org
or mail your gift to
1549 Old Hillsboro Road
Franklin, TN 37069

Grant Information

Recent Grants

- Deutsche Bank
- The Frist Foundation

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

Donor gives generously and anonymously with gifts from the heart

Like most Middle Tennesseans, Ann* works hard. She also budgets carefully to make ends meet money-wise. When the economy hit what felt like a free-fall a few years ago, things got even tighter. Hours from her full-time job were reduced, causing her to need a second part-time job to pay her bills. So now she juggles two jobs that often keep her going from about 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Yet, Ann always has a smile and a friendly word. And though things have been tough, she'll tell you things are a lot tougher for many other people.

What she won't tell you is that in spite of her own financial challenges, she quietly chose to make a difference to the children served by Saddle Up!. When the economy began nose diving in 2008, she saved and set aside \$750 for a donation to Saddle Up!. In 2009, when things slid even more, she increased that gift to \$1,000 and maintained the \$1,000 donation level for 2010. And she

did this anonymously.

Though she asked that we not share her name, Ann was happy to share her reasons for supporting Saddle Up!. As you will quickly see, hers are gifts from the heart:

Why do you choose to support Saddle Up!?

– Because of all you do for the children. Seeing the hard work and passion staff members have put in over the years and reading the newsletter every time and seeing what the program does for the kids. It brings enjoyment to their lives and gives them a feeling of accomplishment and makes them feel better about themselves. It gives them a chance to see themselves as something other than handicapped. They now have something other kids do that they can do, too, instead of seeing all of the things other kids do that they can't do.

Why is it important to give? – We're all one big family. The more we do to help the

community and make the world a better place, the better our own lives are. And when you give, you get so much more back. I can't help give the children riding lessons, but I can be a part of it by donating. Being a small part of such a good thing makes me feel really good.

Is there anyone who inspires you because of their philanthropy? – My oldest brother.

What impact does your giving to Saddle Up! have on you? – It makes me feel good to give back to the community. I wasn't able to have children myself, so in a way, this gives me a connection. By donating, I can help make children happy and help give them something to enjoy and look forward to.

** To honor her wishes of being anonymous, we have not used the donor's real name.*

Hershey, Sidney & Nick – ever heard of them?

What, you're not familiar with these three guys? Think again, are they:

- a famous country trio living right here in Franklin, TN?
- the name of three participants in the fall season of *Franklin's Got Talent*?
- the names of three horses at Saddle Up! in need of sponsors?
- all of the above?

If you guessed "D. all of the above," you are today's winner! They are: 1) Hershey, a 15-year-old, 14.3 hand, black Quarter Horse who served as a trail horse before beginning his job at Saddle Up! in 2010; 2) Sidney, a 15-year-old, 16.2 bay Thoroughbred, trained in dressage; and, 3) Nick, a 14-year-old, 15.1 sorrel Tobiano paint, who was donated to the program this year by former **Tennessee Titan Kevin Mawae**.

You can be a sponsor for any of these, or other, amazing Saddle Up! horses for only \$1,000 a year. For more information on horse (or cat) sponsorships, please contact Development Coordinator Tina Carpenter at 615-794-1150, extension 35.



Holly S. shares her affection for Nick by presenting him with a giant note. Photo by Kim Kline.

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 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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Sarah F., Cameron O., and Gracie W., left to right, practice their painting skills on Gabby during an unmounted lesson this summer. Even the sizzling heat doesn't halt Saddle Up! kids from having fun. They finished their lesson by giving Gabby a cool, bubble bath. Photo by Ashley Kurtzahn.

With a little support from sidewalkers Nancy McLean (left) and Brittany S. (right), Austin C. rose from his wheelchair to walk Cisco to the mounting area, then continued walking up the mounting ramp. Austin worked diligently to attain this goal and celebrated with his team of volunteers. Photo by Nancy Swindell.



Staff Members:

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Alice Duva	Nancy Swindell
Lynne Evans	Lindsey Wood*, CTRS
Bonnie Garner	Lisa Wysocky
Judy Griswold	*NARHA Advanced Instructor

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Catie Byrd • Caroline Delaney
Grace Gregory • Jenn Krause
Alicia McCoy • Ramsey Raybeck
Kolby Skidmore • Libby Smallbone
Alex Wood

2010-2011 Student Interns

Courtney Fultz • Daniel Johnson
Ashley Lemanski

Anniversary celebration continued

(Joey+Rory continued from page 1)

– Rory as a chart-topping songwriter with hits by Clay Walker, Kenney Chesney, Reba and more, and Joey as a solo artist. They met, married a few short months later, and began a simple life enjoying their roles on the farm they call home in Pottsville, TN. Joey was a featured artist at Saddle Up!'s first fall benefit concert in 2007, when she was joined onstage by Rory.

In 2008 they reluctantly agreed to audition for CMT's reality TV show, [Can You Duet Season I](#). The show became a springboard for the duo, who placed third in the competition and landed a record deal with [Vanguard/Sugar Hill Records](#). They were also featured on a national ad campaign with Overstock.com.

Their debut album [The Life Of A Song](#) quickly spawned a Top 30 hit with "[Cheater Cheater](#)" and in the blink of an eye, the duo was everywhere... touring coast-to-coast and overseas. Their success with radio/video airplay and album sales propelled them into several nominations for both industry and fan-voted awards, including winning the [2010 ACM Award for Top New Vocal Duo](#). They have also earned nominations from the Country Music Association.

Led primarily by Joey's honey-laden vocals, their second album covered all the bases from their signature tongue-in-cheek style to "[That's Important To Me](#)," a song that captures the down-to-earth values that define Joey+Rory both as a couple and a duo alike. Most striking is the album's lead single that Rory wrote on a tour bus with Zac Brown. The song, "[This Song's For You](#)", featuring the [Zac Brown Band](#), is a working man's anthem and a tip of the hat to country music fans and concert-goers.

Tickets are \$75 for classic theatre seating, \$100 for cabaret seating (or \$400 for a table for four) on the floor by the stage, and \$125 for the exclusive balcony seats with an excellent view, private bar and restroom. They are available through the Franklin Theatre at www.franklintheatre.com or 615-538-2075.

The concert will begin at 8 p.m.



The inaugural team of Saddle Up! Equestrian Club members recently visited the TN Equine Hospital for a tour of the facilities from Dr. Nathaniel Wright (back row left), the vet who takes care of our herd. Front row – John S., Cameron O., Lindsey L., Emily F. Back row – NARHA Certified Instructor Lynne Evans, NARHA Advanced Instructor Lindsey Wood, NARHA Certified Instructor Linda Albertalli.

(Homecoming Day continued from page 1)

not been trained and teaches it to be handled and ridden – all in a brief amount of time.

- Saddle Up! riders will demonstrate what they do in lessons.
- A veterinarian question-answer session and equine care demonstrations at the vet station in the barn, thanks to [Tennessee Equine Hospital](#).
- Self-guided tours of the barn and farm.
- A specially created coloring book of Saddle Up! horses.
- "Coloring stations" consisting of wooden horse reading tables where children can sit and color. The horse tables will be for sale at the event.
- Temporary tattoos, equine appropriate of course.
- A yard sale, which will not only help raise funds for the program today but celebrate our history. Board member [Cheryl Magli](#) has shared the story of a pivotal yard sale in the early years of Saddle Up!. Volunteers went to other yard sales and got items that did not sell to use in the Saddle Up! yard sale. The success of the sale helped keep Saddle Up! going financially.
- Opportunities to "ride" our practice ponies Duke and Buster.
- Lunch will be available hot off the grill by the [Men of St. Paul's](#).
- Equine artist extraordinaire [Joan Jannaman](#) is creating a special work of art that will be available to purchase and which will be used on T-shirts for the fall event.

So mark your calendars – Saturday, September 17, [Joey+Rory](#) at the Franklin Theatre, and Saturday, October 1, a Homecoming Day at Saddle Up! – and join the celebration!