

# *Circle T Trail Riders Newsletter*

## *July/August 2009*

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Check our web site to view the newsletter in color. <a href="http://www.CircleTTrailRiders.com">www.CircleTTrailRiders.com</a>	

Anyone interested in leading a ride 1 or 2 days, please contact Tracy 717-222-1139.

Circle T Trail Riders, Inc.  
242 South Fort Zellers Road  
Newmanstown, PA 17073



**RSVP TO THE RIDE HOST PRIOR TO THE RIDE FOR ANY LAST MINUTE CHANGES AND/OR CANCELLATIONS.**

Date/Place	Contact/RSVP	More info and special notes
September 27 State Game Lands Hamburg  10:00 a.m.	Deb Billman Kevin Wolf 484-665-0160	State Game Lands parking lot, Mountain Road, Hamburg. Approximately 4 miles west of Cabela's. Call Deb or Kevin for further directions.  Lunch provided but please RSVP and see what you can bring to share.
October 2 - 4 League of Maryland Horsemen  10:00 a.m.	Evelynn Burkehouse  410-398-9749	<p>Come on out and join us with members from the regional horse clubs for a great weekend of fun, camaraderie and meeting new and old friends. This is an annual event to get the regional clubs together to share riding and ideas. Please join us. There will be a bring your covered dish dinner on Friday night. Breakfast will be provided both Saturday and Sunday. Lunch will be provided on Saturday. Dinner will be provided Saturday evening and early Sunday afternoon. Organized rides will be lead both Saturday and Sunday. Please check with the event chairman or read the club rules posted in the clubhouse if you are visiting us. Portable corals up to 12' x 12' are allowed. Dogs must be on a leash at all times. Coggins must be shown at registration. The cost of this weekend is \$25.00 per person. Children 7 and under are free. Have your reservations and check made out to LOMH and send to: Nichole Orr, 16872 Barrens Road North, Stewartstown, Pa 17363</p> <p>Nichole must have your registration and check in hand by <b>September 26.</b> <b>NO RESERVATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE.</b> Chairperson: Evelyn Burkhouse can be reached at 410- 398-9749. Please be sure to leave your name and number if you leave a message.</p> <p>FROM HARRISBURG: Rt. 83 South to 695 West to 70 West to Marriottsville exit. At end of ramp go RIGHT on Marriottsville Rd. to RR track. Cross over RR track, L Henryton first driveway on right at top of hill. FROM HAVRE DE GRACE: Rt. 95 S to 695 W to 70 W to Marriottsville Exit. From ramp, follow above directions. FROM FREDERICK: Rt. 70 E towards Baltimore. Rt. 40 (Ellicott City) exit. LEFT on Marriottsville Rd. to RR track. Cross over track L Henryton first driveway on right at top of hill.</p>
October 23 - 25 Loyalsock State Forest  Halloween party and Hay ride  10:00 a.m.	Tracy Hower  717-222-1139  <b>RSVP to Tracy one week prior to ride.</b>	<p>A camping permit is required. Permits are free but there is limited space. Call Hillsgrove Headquarters to obtain your permit. 570-924-3501</p> <p>Primitive Camping – no water or electric. Bring water for people and horses.</p> <p>After the ride on Saturday we can go to the Forksville Inn for dinner, hayride and Halloween party for those who are interested.</p> <p>Costumes are optional!</p> <p><b>From Interstate 80</b>, get off at Buckhorn Exit, #232 and proceed on Rt. 42 N. Go about 32 miles to the town of Muncy Valley, where Rt.42 and Rt. 220 run together for a short while. You will turn LEFT and continue on Rt. 42 N. You will go up a long winding mountain. When you level off on top, look for Jrs' Market. Just past the market, turn LEFT onto SR 3009 (not marked). Follow signs for Worlds End State Park. The Bridle Trail Head is about 3 miles down SR 3009. It is a dirt road veering off to the right. Look for a sign on your right.</p> <p><b>From Interstate 81</b> North to Rt. 901 West (left at exit ramp) follow 901 W to Rt. 54 W. to Turbotville, then follow signs to I-180 West. Follow I-180 W to Mountoursville and Rt. 87 North. Follow Rt. 87 N for 31 miles to Forksville. In Forksville, turn RIGHT on Rt. 154 N and follow for 2 miles to the Horse Camp on the left. (Big rigs use the next entrance – there is a dip off the road and you will drag).</p>

**RSVP TO THE RIDE HOST PRIOR TO THE RIDE FOR ANY LAST MINUTE CHANGES AND/OR CANCELLATIONS.**

Date/Place	Contact/RSVP	More info and special notes
November 6 - 8 Perkiomen Trail; Green Lane; Evansburg State Park	Eleanor Vallone	<p>Green Lane ride to commemorate the opening of a portion of new trail. This portion will allow riders to circle the reservoir without backtracking.</p> <p>Friday: Self guided riding - Perkiomen Trail or Green Lane Orange Trail are good choices (maps at camping area)</p> <p>Saturday: Ride starts <b>10 :00 a.m.</b> and circles reservoir including new trail</p> <p>Sunday: Ride starts at <b>11:00 a.m.</b></p> <p>Break camp and drive to Evansburg State Park (25 minutes drive time).</p> <p>Directions from Green Lane to Evansburg -- take Route 29 south (right turn) about 15 minutes until 29 turns right in Collegeville. There, you will depart 29 and make a left and immediately go over the Collegeville Bridge. Immediately after the bridge turn left onto Germantown Pike. Pass the light at Evansburg Rd. and look for Skippack Creek Rd. which comes in on your left right after a bend in Germantown Pike so go slow or you'll miss it. If you went over the Skippack Creek you just missed it. Make left onto Skippack Creek Rd. and about 1/4 mile to trailer parking on left.</p>
November 15 Weiser State Forest Haldeman Area  10:00 a.m.	Don Newcomer 717-664 3980 or <a href="mailto:dnewc@dejazzd.com">dnewc@dejazzd.com</a> (email preferred)	<p>From 81 South take 22/ 322 North to 147 North for 6 miles. Turn left on 225 North for 9.7 miles. Turn right on QUARRY road for 1 mile. Turn left on DETRICH road for 0.9 mile. Turn right on WHITE OAK road for 0.4 miles. Look for the ROLAND PICNIC AREA. There is a large parking area behind it.</p> <p>From Tower City take 209 south / west to Elizabethville. Turn left onto 225 south for 0.9 mile. Turn left onto QUARRY rd then follow directions above</p> <p>There are bathroom facilities at the Roland Picnic Area</p> <p>Bring along a packable lunch as we will stop about mid-ride for a little break. There are bathroom facilities at this stop.</p> <p>Ride length is approximately 13 miles</p>
New Year's Day Ride January 1, 2010  11:00 a.m.	Don Newcomer 717-664 3980 or <a href="mailto:dnewc@dejazzd.com">dnewc@dejazzd.com</a> (email preferred)	<p>They say what you do on New Year's Day you will do for the rest of the year. With that in mind, the ride will be on the Horse Shoe Trail starting at Dresher road and finishing at the Lazy Acres Ranch. About 2-1/2 to 3 hours ride time.</p> <p>I have three separate pastures so we should be able to put the horses out while the drivers head back to pick up the tow vehicles (I will provide the transport vehicle.) After we get back stick around, socialize and enjoy a hearty meal.</p> <p><b>DIRECTIONS:</b></p> <p>From the intersection of route 322 and route 117 take 117 south for 0.3 mile. Bear right on BELL road for 1 mile to stop sign. Turn left onto LAWN road for 0.1 mile. Turn left on Drescher road for 0.6 mile. Parking on the left.</p>

# Ride stories and photos...

April 25, 2009 – Valley Forge Ride

Another beautiful ride lead by Pat Wilson! Members of Circle T, League of Maryland Horsemen, and Tri-State riding clubs made up the 40-45 folks who enjoyed the day. Pat led the ride across battlefields with visits to the monuments so everyone could read the inscriptions and take in the history of Valley Forge. Pat's son, son-in-law and granddaughter met up with the group for lunch on Saturday, bringing refreshments. The day was beautiful and everyone enjoyed catching up with friends under the sunny skies. Once the day was done, several riders headed out to continue the weekend at Green Lane.

Thanks Pat for an enjoyable and memorable day!  
More pictures can be seen on our website...



April 26, 2009 - Green Lane Ride

We got off to a beautiful day of riding on Sunday, with about 20 rides starting the ride at 10 AM. The day was warm, clear and the group in great spirits all the way around.

Eleanor led the ride for Pat, but true to Eleanor form - sort of loosely. We all could travel just as fast or slow as we wanted...just wait at the turns in the trail so we could stay together. This worked very well and we didn't have to have one fast and one slow ride...we just all caught up where we needed to.

We skipped the first section of the trail this time - the rocky section - by making a shortcut along the gas lines and into the main park boat ramp entrance. This saved a lot of slow and tedious rock skipping. Everybody seemed to like that change.

About an hour into the ride some of our longer distance visitors did a turnaround with a pre-planned guide back so we lost about six riders. They had a long drive and needed an early jump on the road. The rest of us skipped right along and crossed the long scenic bridge over the reservoir somewhere around 11:30. The group was still raring to go so we pushed on to the Knight Rd. parking area, where we all dismounted and took in some shade (and our horses took in some grass). It was getting pretty hot! Turned out the temp that day was 93!

About 1 PM we got back in the saddle and took some shortcuts to the shade of the woods and a quicker return trip. Everybody kept up good spirits but the heat was a challenge by the time we returned. We had a couple of reservoir splashes to help out, and got back into the campground about 2:30 PM.

Eleanor's other half, George, had a charcoal grill of hamburgers and hotdogs, chips and cold sodas...and they sure were welcome. We managed a nice shady picnic and then pushed off, looking forward to next ride!

Submitted by: Eleanor E. Vallone



Fair Hill Ride - Cancelled due to a wet week leading up to the ride.

May 17, 2009 - Ontelaunee Dam Ride

The original date of May 3rd was cancelled due to poor weather, but we had the ride May 17th (the rain date) with 11 riders attending. The ride started with a large tree across Deb & Kevin's driveway, which they had to cut so they could get their trailer out to get to the ride. It was a cool overcast day, but it was a good ride with good food afterwards. Thanks Deb & Kevin!

June 5 - 7, 2009 Steve Frantz Ride

Rained Friday, had 20-30 riders. Always a good time with challenging riding, good food Saturday dinner followed by a DJ. Thanks Steve!

June 13 & 14, 2009 - Valley Lea

To start with, Wayne, Robin and I want to thank you all for giving us time to set up the ride.

We had a lot of chores to do and with Tim Hanks help we were able to get them done. We started the party, I mean ride on Wednesday in the rain thinking about what we had to do. Thursday made us think more as it still was raining. So Wayne took the bull?? By the horn and off we went. Grocery shopping was a riot, cleaning the picnic area was funny also. Sorry you missed these chores. Wayne practiced with the fire till he got it right and we were ready for all of you, oh we had to shop for the tablecloths and other stuff. We even got the grass mowing guy to give it a touch up.

On Friday we waited to see all of our friends come to camp and join us for a great weekend and I think it was. I helped most of you find a spot to park that you would like, and hopefully a nice place to tie our horses. We had a beautiful day, and we were the only ones around that had that day. It rained all day about ½ hour east of Valley Lea and other places, but we all know we had a nice breeze and a sunny sky. One time John was getting nervous when we had to stop for lunch and a big black cloud was over us. We went to the overlook that gave us direction for our day. Jean's birthday was June 13th, I believe, if it wasn't we pretended it was. Happy Birthday Jean. We dead headed back from the view of the overlook because I thought we might eventually get wet. My luck held out till about 2 AM Sunday morning when it did really rain.

We set the table, Wayne lit the fire and the covered dishes showed up and we had a Circle T feast on great food. Thanks Wayne for the Hamburgers and Hot Dogs. Thanks all that brought the rest. We had a nice fire but no one sat around and told stories, which was a shame.

Sunday ride got a bit long, but the weather was great and we kept riding. We did a new trail, Fishing Creek and Susquehanna Park. Wayne raced into camp to get the fire started so we could have left over hamburgers and hot dogs. They sure did taste good.

Ernie and Elaine brought their wagon and horse and drove around the countryside. They said they had a great time. It was good to see them and have them share an activity with us.

Dave thanks for coming, please come back you hear.

THANK YOU CIRCLE T FOR COMING TO VALLEY LEA. PAT WILSON WE MISSED YOU BIG TIME.

Submitted by: Paulette Ash

**This is a public service announcement...**

In a press release today, the National Institute of Health has announced the discovery of a potentially dangerous substance in the hair of horses. This substance, called "amobacter equuii" has been linked with the following symptoms in females:

Reluctance to cook, clean or do housework.

Reluctance to wear make-up, good clothes or heels.

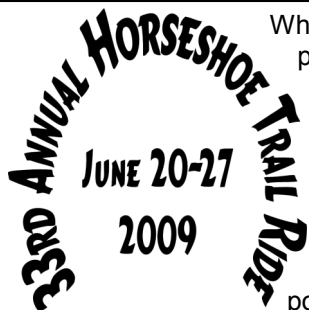
Reluctance to spend money on home or car repairs until after "baby has new shoes, pad, blanket, tack, grain, hay & supplements."

"Amobacter equuii" usually results in long hours away from home and exhaustion which may lead to a loss of physical contact with other humans (especially husbands). "Amobacter equuii" is thought to be addictive, driving the need for additional sources - this may lead to a "herd mentality" or, like the potato chip commercial, "you can't have just one."

Beware! If you come in contact with a female human infected by this substance, be prepared to talk about horses for hours.

Surgeon General's Warning: Horses are expensive, addictive, and may impair the ability to use common sense.





What can I say. This ride is always interesting. Saturday started off with pouring rain, which pushed the arrival time for riders back to about 4 or 5 p.m. One of the participants, Joy, was traveling up from Virginia with her 11-year-old granddaughter Lexi when one of the brake calipers on the truck locked up. They called me from the garage, and were waiting for it to be repaired but were on their way. If that wasn't enough to deal with, somewhere along the trip they locked the keys in the truck and had to call a lock smith. Despite all this, they were one of the first rigs to arrive at Sunbowl Park, which was a new site for us, only to discover parking wasn't very good because someone was having a graduation party and cars were parked all over. We were told to park our rigs on the road in the development and put up our portable fences in the park, which was very nice.

Shortly after I arrived at the camp, I received a phone call informing me that that Paul Wissler was involved in an accident on Route 23 at the HST Monument and Washington Head Quarters. He and his horse Cinnamon were okay, but he could not use his van and horse trailer. John Weaver and I drove down and picked up him and his horse, and he was going to ride the ride with the help of the other riders. Everyone else arrived okay, got set up and we had a light dinner. Later that evening Stephanie (from Maryland) discovered she locked her keys in her truck along with the spare set. Ray a friend from Maryland, Steph, Dave, and Kim attempted to open the truck using a hanger, but it wasn't strong enough. At about 10:30 p.m., Steph tried to find a lock smith. Finally at about 1:00 a.m. and \$160.00 later, the door was opened. The 5:00 a.m. wake-up call came quickly.

Sunday started out cloudy, but no rain. We were camped on the trail, but had to ride down to the monument and start the ride (only about 2 miles) and come back up to camp and continue on the trail. It did start to rain again, but only a light rain which lasted until about lunch. While passing our trailers we stopped and got our rain gear. We had a nice ride on trails and road, viewing beautiful homes and horse farms that day. We finishing up the day at Sharon Davis's property in Chester Springs.

Tuesday's ride was mostly trail riding through Hopewell Furnace and French Creek which is very nice. Coming back to camp you have to cross an old wooden railroad bridge which was scary and not very safe. Then you travel down through Gale Mast's farm and have cross a steel-grate bridge with no sides and water running underneath. Dave was riding Bliss's horse Apache, who took 2-3 jumps to get across the bridge. Apache was shaken up and also ended up with a twisted shoe that needed fixing. Luckily Ray (the gentleman from Maryland) is a farrier and he got Bliss's horse and Paul's horse fixed up for the next day of riding.

The next morning Joy and Lexi decided this ride was taking a toll on their horses and decided to call it quits. Bliss wanted to continue on the ride, but her horse developed girth sores from the saddle she was using. Luckily she had another saddle which girthed back further. This worked out great for the horse to continue, and on we went. That day while riding we met up with Mike Getz, Char Rutt and Candy Burkholder who rode along with us until reaching their farms. They continued and went home while we continued into camp at Friendly Horseman's Club.

Since the next day was Wednesday and a rest day (no riding), everyone went home that night except for Paul. He spent the night at camp with his horse and kept my horse Bushwacker there, also. When he woke up Wednesday morning he notice that both horses were gone! Paul attempted to look for them and then awakened Donna Fisher who lives next door to Friendly's. Donna called the the police and me. We walked and drove around but could not find them. Donna received a call at about 6:45 a.m. that a gentleman on his way to work came up the horses walking down Reinholds Road. He stopped and kept them off the road until Paul and I could arrive. They were only 2 houses away from Mike and Char, so we walked them to their house to wait until we went back and got the trailer. There was another horse staying at Mike and Char's that was doing the HST ride, and we just rode with Mike and Char the day before. I guess Bushwacker & Cinnamon were following the HST back - we will never know.

After all that excitement, Paul called it quits and rode Cinnamon back to her stable in the Middlecreek area.

Thursday's ride was a long and hard ride through Middlecreek to Colebrook.

Friday's ride through Hershey was the hottest day of the week with a lot of road riding. By this time only 4 riders were left. We crossed Route 22 around 4:00 p.m. Traffic was very busy. We came upon the first grated bridge which Bliss's horse did not want to cross due the bad experience in Geigertown. So, John and Dave went back across the bridge to help look for another way across. They decided to go down into the stream and come up the other side, but there was guard rail that went down to I-81, so they went under the bridge and came up the other side. Dave was on Kim's horse Destiny, and was leading Bliss on Apache. Somehow Bliss and Apache got in front of Dave and Destiny at the top of the bank and kicked up stones and glass which hit the guard rail and spooked him, causing Apache to back up into Destiny,

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# 33RD ANNUAL HORSESHOE TRAIL RIDE JUNE 20-27 2009

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who tried to get away and ended up injuring himself on the guard rail somehow. We got out to the road and tried calling Kim but had no cell phone service at Eddie Rehner's, Manada Gap. We then called Charity who said she would come out with her trailer, and she also called Dr. Henderson. John and I decided to continue to ride, only to find the bridge was out on Manada Bottom Road and had to detour probably another 5 miles to get back on the HST. We finally arrived into camp around 7:30 p.m. Eddie and his family of 17 were there and were happy to see the horses come into camp. We ate dinner and went for our rigs, making it a long day. Kim arrived back at camp from the vet with good news that Destiny was doing well. He had to have some staples and stitches to close his wounds, but should be okay.

Saturday was the last day of the ride. It was a nice, cool day going to the monument. John was nice enough to bring another horse, so Dave could finish the ride. There were 4 of us - Bliss, Dave, John and myself. Bliss and I got off and walked our horses up to the monument, being the last day they were tired and dragging. Dave and Bliss were so excited of their accomplishment and would do the ride again. I was just amazed that my horse of 21 years old could still do this ride, which he had done many times in his younger days. We signed the register and headed back down the hill to camp, arriving close to 6:00 p.m. for dinner and to pack up and head home. What a week!!! I can't remember having so many things happen before on this ride, but everything ended well. Until next year, Happy Trails, Tracy

*The following was sent to me by Sharon Davis, who graciously allows the HST riders to camp in her pasture. Thank you Sharon for the pictures and for helping our club make the week-long trip possible! Jamie*

The Horse-Shoe Trail ride group stayed here last night after their 20 mile ride from Valley Forge. The pictures were taken in my horse pasture as the group was leaving to continue west for today's ride. I'm always so impressed with Paul. At 83 years young, he rode in here about 1-1/2 hours ahead of the other riders yesterday. What an inspiration! One of the riders left this morning carrying a large set of pruning clippers in the event they encountered any problem limbs or branches across the trail. She indicated that past experience had shown her the usefulness of being armed with that equipment. I don't really have any involvement with the club except as a friend to some of the members who I knew through competitive and endurance riding. I thoroughly enjoy having them camp here (this was the third year). It's always been a great group of riders and the food is a real treat, too! Let's face it – horse people are the best! The Horse-Shoe Trail folks (Ingrid, Ken and Don Cook) also came for dinner last night. They brain-stormed with the riders to get feed-back on the trail, road crossings and the visibility of the markings. They're very dedicated trail workers!





more HST photos

Picture of the ride through Middle Creek to Colebrook.



Picture of Dave, Bliss, Tracy and John after returning the last day. Only 3 riders did the whole week of HST. Also pictured is Todd, our cook.



Picture of Dave and Bliss the last day at the monument.



Yeah they made it!!!!



## July 18 - 19, 2009 - Saddle Up! For St. Jude!

The St Jude's weekend ride was a lot of fun. It started out for us on Sat. am when we met Kim and Dave and followed them to the place where we would camp. It was beautiful, sitting at the base of the mountain where we would later ride. The property is owned by Liz and Rich Brandt, a couple who not only opened their field to camping, but also their house and everything else to us. We set up camp and by 10 am we were on our way. Saturday riders included: Tracy, Dave, Mike, Char, John, Wayne, Jean, Jean and her husband and daughter, Tina, myself and Phil (my husband). Tina and Phil are both new to the group with this being their first trail ride with Circle T. Tracy led the way up the mountain on great trails and we ended up at Rick and Janelle's house. Here we stopped to have some snacks and others used the bathroom. Rick and Janelle have a variety of dogs who came out to greet us and reap affection from us. We then rode back out and returned to camp mid-late afternoon. People relaxed, set up camp, bathed horses and prepared for the picnic. Paulette, Kim and Karen had been furiously preparing food while we all rode. Kim did not ride on Saturday and Dave rode one of John's horses, Ace. Ace never ran off. Kim and Dave's horses were home, recuperating from the HST ride. Destiny had been injured on that ride, but is now doing well and healing and we expect to see him back at the Brandywine ride. Dinner was scrumptious and plenty of it. Dave and Kim's chicken recipe is the best. One little lesson I learned was never forget to seal your bag of marinade (ha ha). The Chinese auction was fun (thanks, Jamie) and people talked and laughed and made new friends. We all joined back at the trailer later prior to retiring for drinks and talk. Weather was perfect for sleeping. Sunday morning, I rode Rick and Janelle's horse "Sam," a Percheron/Quarter Horse, cross that Jose bred. He ended up coming home to NJ with us to live so we will all see Sam again. He is doing great. Jose, Karen, Kim, Jamie, Deb, Kevin and John's wife Linda all joined us Sunday for the ride. Meanwhile, we lost Jean and Tina. Kim rode my rescue paint horse "Joe". Again a perfect weather day. We rode more great trails, and stopped at Kenny and Sue's house, who had a home cooked lunch awaiting our arrival. Delicious food and beautiful place where they live. After lunch, we headed back to camp. Unfortunately about 1/2 hour from camp we had a slight casualty. Phil's saddle had gotten loose and with Phil being a green rider, he and the saddle ended up under the horse. He unfortunately broke two ribs and the horse took off and was caught by another rider. Thank you to her (Deb). We got Phil back up on the horse and down the hill out to the street. Mike and Dave went with Phil and I, while the others continued back to camp. On the road, Mike hollered "Car!" and flagged down a passing car and asked the woman in it (who by the way was eating a big bowl of chili) to drive Phil back to camp. She did and I ponied his horse. Liz and Rich meanwhile were taking the best care of Phil until we got back. Liz then drove us to Lebanon County Good Sam Hospital, doing about 70 in the middle lane with four-ways a blaring. There he underwent CT scans of chest/abdomen and pelvis and was later discharged. Kim and Dave picked us up and we ate a gourmet meal at McDonald's on the way back. Phil later vomited this just prior to getting into our rig to leave PA. When we got back to

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the farm, everyone had nicely packed up our camp and our now three horses were standing in stalls in Liz and Rich's barn waiting for us. We packed up and had an uneventful drive home. All in all, the ride was great and the amount we raised was \$1529.00 for St. Jude's. Phil and I feel fortunate and appreciate what a wonderful group of people we have been lucky enough to meet and become friends with. Liz is quite the ambulance driver if anyone ever needs one. The Brandts are about the most hospitable people I have ever met, even offering their bed to us that night. Phil is on the mend and I look forward to Brandywine. Thanks to all who helped us and to Tracy for a great time and for leading the way on Maverick. See everyone soon. Miss you.

Submitted by: *Bliss*



LOOK FOR MORE PICTURES FROM SADDLE UP ON THE website!



### Thanks to everyone who helped make our Saddle Up! For St. Jude ride a success!

The total for the weekend was \$1,529.00, with \$205 raised by the raffle table. **Congratulations** to Phil for having the largest sponsor donation for the ride! The raffle table filled up with donations from local businesses, including items from some new places. Items included a bag of feed, "goodie buckets" filled with stuff, halters, Breyer horse, horse treats... lots of stuff. Businesses who donated items included:

Red Barn Equine Outfitters  
Stone Mountain Tack Shop  
H&H Tack Shop  
Equestrian International  
Huber's Feed Mill  
Gehman's Feed Mill  
K&K Feed Mill



We also had some Circle T members donate items for the table, including an Avon gift bag from Linda Weaver, a picture frame made by me, a heavy duty lead line by Kim Firestone... forgive me if I've missed anyone.

The ride and picnic was a lot of fun, and everyone who took part in the preparation and organization of the event did a great job.

And a **huge THANK YOU** to our hosts for the weekend, Liz and Rich Brandt. They are always ready for anything!

Until next time, happy riding! *Jamie*

August 21-23, 2009—Brandywine

I would like to thank all of you that braved the weather and came to another of my "I survived the Circle T Ride". I had prayed for a miracle and that was granted.

I want to thank Wayne for bringing his trailer down to take us to the river, Wayne and Jean for checking out some of the trails I was going to ride on after the bad storm, Wayne and Dave for taking up the rear road guard for the ride in on Sunday, to avoid the bees we found, and Kim for helping me in the front.

It was a great weekend. There were trials and tribulations but we all got through them and it seemed to be a thumbs-up ride.

It was hot on Friday when people started to arrive. We all gathered at Famous Dave's and had a nice table and atmosphere and great waiter, so we could be ourselves. It rained hard they said on Friday night but I did not hear all of it. It became muddy at the entrance/exit to the field and some had to park in Rose's driveway. Rose made some accommodations and got the rest parked also. The weather was so iffy and we didn't have any current weather info, so we decided to wait until the rain stopped and then ride. The break came around 10:30 while some of us were eating a great breakfast. We got back to camp and tacked up and went for a nice three hour or so ride. Of course, we found bees on the way out and on the way in, this was not good. We checked the river and it was close to flood stage so no tubing. Some of us went to Red Lobster, Pat Wilson came there with her company and we had a nice happy group. It rained while we were there and we were able to walk back to camp without getting too wet.

Sunday became the good day. We rode out at 9 and I managed to find the bees on this trail again. I think Pat Wilson got the worst of the bees. Sorry Pat. After Lourine got the bees off of Pat we continued the tour and checked the river out around noon. We were able to ride the horses into the river. It was high and had a good current which meant a faster ride. They decided to tube, so back to camp we went. Wayne had the trailer ready, loaded the tubes and people, and away we go. We unloaded, gave them the tubes, and abandoned them as they walked in a line to the river carrying their tubes. I must get a picture of that next year. We went around to the first pick up spot, and were hanging out. All of a sudden I hear Eleanor's voice and I said, "They're here!" and they were. Pat had a grin from ear to ear. We raced around to Thompson's Bridge to pick them up. Wayne and I met the owner of the Wilderness Canoe place down there. The water was so high it was all the way up to the steps of his building. Everyone asked to go back for another run but we were out of time.

I want to thank John Moore for his attempt to dry out the muddy spot near the exit of the field. John reached incredible speed in the field as he approached the exit and I do believe he hovered his truck and trailer over the mud and splashed most of the water out of those holes, or scared it to death. He looked like a launched missile, never seen anything like it. Then a damsel became distressed when she stuck her truck in the one mud pond, but Jason Aldean jumped on his big green tractor and went down through the pasture to the rescue. With trusty chain in hand, Jay attached it to a tow hook on the truck, then Jason attached the mighty chain to the tractor. They gave the lady instructions. Jason gave the big green tractor a gentle tug. Out of mire came the beautiful truck and thankful lady. Jason departed with a grin and went back through the pasture to put his big green tractor away. What a guy!

The rest of us got out without Jason's help (darn it), what a bunch of good drivers we are. We managed to park in Rose's driveway, another picture I missed. All of those rigs stacked up. Poor Pat Wilson was the only one left in the field. Everyone moved out into the road so Pat had clearance. She came through the mud waving and smiling and just driving along. What a gal!

Submitted by: *Paulette Ash*

ANOTHER wonderful year with Paulette riding Brandywine! The rain held back during the day and we riders didn't feel a drop. Night time warm rains but the horses just didn't mind. Got the tubing in on Sunday and it was the best ever. Creek was high, a little fast - everyone had a great time. John entertained us with a mad dash with his big rig to clear the rain soaked fields...we all cheered him on and clapped him through the gates. The rest of us didn't have much trouble at all. I want to thank Paulette, Rose and Wayne (for hauling us out to tubing) for a wonderful weekend.

Happy trails, *Eleanor Vallone*

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