

Merry Christmas from Stoner Ridge Farm

Foundation First Mountain Horse Training™

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And so it goes . . .

November was another busy month for us here at SRF. It began with Robert traveling to Waterloo, IA to continue building partnerships with the Minard family and their horses. Not only have Joe and Sandy invested in their horses, they have invested in themselves. They have increased their level horsemanship through the clinics Robert has conducted there. By learning strategies and techniques they are constantly teaching their horses in a positive way. They have horses that are fun to work with and easy to ride. Robert did bring Millie back with him to SRF for a tune-up. She's a nice Morgan mare that we had here for awhile last year.

Robert returned from Iowa to welcome a new apprentice to the farm. Joan Miller from Holmes County, OH came to work with him the second week of November. I really admire her desire to continue learning so she can have a deeper, richer experience with her horse, Abigail. She really wants to be a good leader and to establish more of a partnership with her.

Joan has been in charge of the Rails to Trails program in Holmes County for the last several years. She has written many grants to fund the project. Fifteen of the twenty-nine mile trail have been completed. Joan would like to

acquire the skills that would enable her to work more directly with horses. We are already looking at working together on some projects as Joan learns more about the gaited horse industry. Robert and I even went to Holmes County last week to explore some possibilities. It was such an interesting trip. The county has over a 42% Amish population. The craftsmanship of the hand-made items there was truly remarkable.

Don & Nancy brought Penny and Blueberry Wine in order to continue their show career. Robert and I took Stormy, Darby, and Derby Blue home. We will really miss them. Don & Nancy are doing a great job with their horses at home. Nancy is here almost every week learning and enjoying their horses in training.

The third week of November found Charlie on vacation. He always takes it during deer season. Congratulations are in order. He did get one deer near the end of the week. He and Erin will use a couple of deer each year. Erin says deer chili is the best!

About the time we thought things were back to 'normal' Thanksgiving was here. We only took the one day off. Black Friday just passed us right on by (perhaps that was a good thing for many reasons <G>). I did enjoy the days off from school so that I could be here at the farm.

And so it goes . . . We've come to the end of another show season,

Christmas is almost here, and another year is about to conclude. It is all so hard to believe. Next month the newsletter will have a "Year in Review" section and I'll highlight events of 2009. Thank you for helping us build partnerships that last beyond the show season. You all are the greatest!



2008 UMH Awards

UMH Banquet

The annual High Point Awards Ceremony and Banquet will be held on Dec. 12th at the Holiday Inn North in Lexington, KY. Many meetings will be held during the day. Be sure to check the UMH web site for times. Please come and join us for a special time of fellowship. The SRF High Point recipients are on the back of the newsletter. Congratulations to everyone. It's been a great year.

It's a Girl

That's right . . . Eyvonne and Bobby are expecting another little girl. We're all pretty excited. Rachel has been praying for a sister. Please keep them in your prayers that all will go well.



Stoner Ridge Farm 2009 UMH High Points

RPM's Squirrel's Blackfoot
1st - 2-3 YO Open Trail Pleasure
1st - Open Four Gait

Sandman's Taking Chances
2nd - Open Four Gait

Pepper's Capital Venture
1st - 3 YO Stallions & Geldings Classic

Gaitway's Jasmine Joy
1st - Adult Versatility
1st - Mares Country Trail Pleasure
3rd - Open Western Pleasure
3rd - Adult Trail Obstacle
3rd - High Money Horse

SRF's Silver Sundown
1st - Open Western Pleasure
1st - Stallions Trail Pleasure
1st - Trail Pleasure Championship
1st - High Money Horse
2nd - Adult Versatility
2nd - Men's Open Trail

RRF Gold Nugget
1st - Geldings Classic Pleasure

Rider Awards

Steve Heuslein
3rd - Open Amateur Country Trail

Marcia Spencer
2nd - Open Novice Trail Pleasure

Lyngle Lawson
2nd - Non Pro Classic

J.T. Hickey
3rd - Juvenile 11 & Under Country Trail
2nd - Juvenile Trail Obstacle
3rd - Youth Versatility

Lauren Hickey
2nd - Juvenile 17 & Under Western
2nd - Youth Versatility
3rd - Juvenile Trail Obstacle

Lead Line Participant
Ella Tillery & Ruby DeAtley

