

## Merry Christmas from Stoner Ridge Farm

Foundation First Mountain Horse Training™

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### Thanksgiving Blessings

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving with family and friends this year. There is nothing better than being able to pause and remember how blessed we truly are. We continue to be grateful for our health, for the ability to work, for horses, and the opportunity to share them with others. We are thankful that we can enjoy good food and have the ability to prepare it. It's great to be able to learn and grow in knowledge. How wonderful it is to have a warm home and to rest at the end of a



*Enter into His gates  
with Thanksgiving  
and into His courts  
with praise. Be  
thankful to Him and  
bless His name.*

*Psalm 100:4*



## Stoner Ridge Farm

### Versatility Clinic Held at SRF



busy day!

On Nov. 12th, Charlie held a Trail Obstacle Clinic here at the farm. There was a

small group of folks who wanted to come and work on obstacles. As the event evolved, the number of horses was limited to five so that Charlie and Erin could help work directly with everyone. However, the clinic was open to all auditors who wanted to come and observe.

Charlie began the day with Kemo Sabe, "Mo", a 3 year old gelding by Simon Barjonah. He is

an intelligent, willing fella who had just been under saddle about 6 weeks. Charlie had done quite a bit of ground work so he chose to demonstrate how to get Mo to touch his nose to a specific spot on the round pen. It was so interesting to see Mo's response as Charlie encouraged correct choices as Charlie directed him to the "spot". The activity did a good job of highlighting the importance of ground work.



After participants saddled up,

Charlie led everyone through the process of completing each obstacle. He demonstrated proper backing techniques, the side pass, approach, and how to use soft hands seat, and legs to direct your horse. Everyone did a fantastic job and learned lots! We broke for lunch about 1:00. Everyone brought a little something to share: chili, potato soup, chicken chili soup, cookies, brownies, donut holes and more. Thank you to all!

After lunch, everyone saddled up again and worked intensely the remainder of the afternoon. Folks worked on the cowboy curtain, pole on a barrel, bridge, noodles, backing through the L, elevated poles, etc. It was a very successful, fun day. Everyone added tools to their trail obstacle tool box. Charlie is planning more clinics in the future. Watch for more information. It was sure a fun day!





## Make a Wish

Charlie was recently contacted by the dad of a little girl who had just finished her last chemo treatment.. He was working with the Make a Wish Foundation to find his daughter a horse. Unfortunately, Charlie doesn't have one ready but he did refer the request to someone else. Since that contact, we have seen another request for a little girl on Facebook:

\* .. "this horse must be **GAITED** and **BROKE**, **BROKE**. Not hasn't been used in awhile, or sugar coating the stories. This little girl has been through enough and we're seeking out her unicorn. 14 - 14.2 hands **NO** bigger! Mare or gelding is fine, color doesn't matter either. Please help us make her wish come true and let us know what you have for sale."

The horse will be purchased out right as any other horse



## Prayers Please

Please remember the family of Alece Ellise who passed away recently due to the complications of Covid. She was an RMHA senior judge from TN.

Also, Charlie lost his great aunt, Deloris Howard last week. She was Timmy Howard's mother (Thomas' grandmother).

Thank you for remembering these folks in prayer.



that is for sale would be. If anyone knows of horses that might be suitable, Charlie has the contact information. What an honor to help a child's wish come true!

Many years ago, Bob and I had the opportunity to help the Make a Wish Foundation help Emma Deweese's wish come true. They had already found a horse for Emma but she wanted to come here, to Stoner Ridge Farm, and work with Bob. Emma stayed with us for about a week. She and Bob worked intensively on ground work and training techniques that Emma could use when she took her horse home. It was an awesome experience we will treasure always.



## If You Give a Kid a Pony

If you give a kid a pony . . . They will need a saddle to go with it . . .

You'll buy them the best saddle you can afford and then they will probably want a bridle and a saddle pad and some boots too . . .

They will probably spend hours begging you to go to the barn even though there are other things that you need to do. They will insist and their insistence will win.

And when they get their first show shirt, they'll need a belt and spurs and a hat . . . And a TEAM, a Barn Family . . . And then, life as you know it is over.

No more lazy weekends or holidays for you, my friend. You will see more sunrises than you ever thought possible. Every spare minute will be spent hauling kids and dogs and boots and tack all over tarnation for hours to practice for their sport. The sport that will drive their very passion.

And your house will be a mess. And your car will be dirty. All because you gave a kid a pony . . .

Your weekends will be spent freezing to death or burning up as you hang out in the barn or arena. And their weekends will be spent gaining confidence and friends and learning new skills that stick with them for the rest of their lives. They'll be having fun and getting dirty . . . So dirty that you will be doing laundry in a whole new way - possibly at times involving a pressure washer. And you'll be there the day

they win their first ribbon, win their first class, get their first Circuit Championship . . . And you will be SO proud. The other parents will congratulate you . . . But you know, it's the hard work and determination that they have invested into this pony that deserves the congratulations. As a team, they have done this . . .

And right before your eyes, your little one will be transformed from a small fry who be-bopped along on the little pony with their little bum bouncing out of the saddle into a little horseman. And you will be proud . . . So proud.

When you give a kid a pony, you too will develop new lifelong friendships, developed solely from the same passion for the sport and the love of your barn family and team. You will root together. And cry together. . . And laugh together. All because you gave a kid a pony.

Then one day - years from now . . . They will be in their room and a picture of that pony will catch their eye. When they look at it, they will know instantly that when you gave that kid a pony you gave them a childhood that they will never forget. They will realize that everything YOU gave up along the way . . . . was worth it.

All because you gave a kid a pony. . .

-Anna Ingram Knowles

# Lessons, Training, Education . . . Priceless

A beautifully written message  
by Amy Skinner . . .

When you pay for a lesson or training, you aren't buying an hour of my time. You're paying for thousands of hours of sweat, struggle, success and tears. You're buying injuries, mistakes and revelations. You're buying nights awake thinking about a horse or student I need to help more. You're buying hours of hauling hay, mucking stalls and grooming, of carefully checking your horse over like it was my own. You're paying for my further education, because I still take lessons as frequently as possible. You're paying for my



care, concern, over dinner conversation, and you inevitably become a central part of my life.

You can't put a price on education, or personal development, or the bliss of finally being "with" a horse.

Thank you

for sharing with me, teaching me, and letting me teach you, while I put food on my table and hay in my barn with the most fulfilling job ever.



## Important Dates

**Dec. 25** - Christmas Day

**Jan. 1** - New Years Day

**Jan. 17** - Martin Luther King Day

**Feb. 14** - Valentine's Day

**Friendly Reminder**  
**Please make out checks**  
**to:**

Charlie DeAtley  
323 Youngs Mill  
Paris, KY 40361



## Winter on the Farm

We always enjoy folks coming to the farm. Lessons continue with Bob: Kylie, Taylor, Laura, Barbara, Carolyn, Julie Brown and others from time to time. Charlie welcomes owners always. He's started several young horses this fall including one for Ashley Slone, Tim & Marcia Spencer, Melissa Walters, and Julie Tucker's colt who was under saddle but needed more riding. We really enjoy having everyone.

Charlie was able to get the trail obstacle horses he's been showing to their third KHBIF competition. Owners who have participated in that program in Trail or Show should be receiving vouchers in a month or so. We appreciate how that program is administered so owners receive benefit from the state of Kentucky and their competition performances. The program has been approved for 2022 also.

Most of the horses who have been shown in the past are out in the field now enjoying some time out together. It does them good to get to graze and relax together. We still have a few mares that we watch closely because they are such air-ferns and need less to eat with slow metabolism. All the horses are doing so well. They are well and seem content with their buddies.

Erin has been very busy this fall with her yarn business. Her hats and scarves have been very popular. There are several crafters in the RMH world now - Jolene Holbrook, Melissa Walters, Natalie Wright, and Erin DeAtley that we know of. Thanks to all who support these folks. They have beautiful products!

We are thankful for life's blessings. Folks are great! The horses are healthy. Even on days when the mud is knee deep or the wind chill is frigid, we are blessed!





## Mama's Cookies

These very special "cookies" are for horse treats given to us by Kirstin Santos (Ruby's new horse's previous owner). She brought them for Shadow along with the recipe. I'm sure your horses will just love them too. After a few days, it is best to freeze the cookies then thaw in the microwave a few at a time as needed for a special treat.

1 Cup whole oats, soaked just a little

1 Cup rolled oats

2 Cups oat flour - May need to add more at the end if dough is too wet

2 Cups shredded carrots and apples

2 tsp. salt

1/2 Cup honey, molasses or sorghum

4 Tbsp. oil

1/2 Cup water

### Directions

- Soak whole oats while you're putting other ingredients together.
- Mix dry ingredients together in a large bowl.
- Shred carrots & apples in a food processor.
- Combine honey, oil, and water in a separate container.
- Stir in liquids with dry ingredients and mix well.

Note: If the dough is too wet and doesn't hold together add all, add more oat flour.

- Refrigerate the dough for an hour or more.
- Form 1" balls and place on a cookie sheet.

Note: The dough should be sticky but form well into balls. Dip fingers in water to help with shaping balls.

- Bake at 350 degrees for 15 - 17 minutes or until golden brown.