



Welcome to the December, 2009 issue of the [Horsefeathers Therapeutic Riding Center, NFP](#) newsletter! Our hope is to pass on vital information about our program and have a little fun. We promise to put the important stuff at the top and end with some fun.

We would like to share our mutual journey, so drop us an e-mail if you have [something to share](#).

Important dates to remember...

Click on the links to add it to your calendar!.

- Our first annual Barn Dance, [Friday, January 8th, 2009 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm](#)
- First Bank of Highland Park Art Exhibit, January 2010
- One Dime at a Time at Whole Foods Market Deerfield, January, 2010 thru March, 2010
- Barn Closed
 - New Years Eve, Thursday, December 31st, 2009
 - New Years Day, Friday, January 1st, 2010
- We will be open the Saturday and Sunday after New Years.



If you would like to reschedule due to your holiday schedule, or add an extra lesson or two, drop us an e-mail to lessons@horsefeatherscenter.org or call us at 847-234-2411.

That sharing feeling...

We are are a 501 (c) 3 charity. If you would like to make a donation, send a check to

[Horsefeathers Therapeutic Riding Center, NFP](#)
1181 Riverwoods Rd
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

Eagle Scout Project

Life Boy Scout Joe Coyne began renovating the arena this week for his Eagle Scout Project. The kick boards have been replaced and painted. We hope our riders like the new look, more changes to follow. Thanks to all who helped!

First Bank of Highland Park Exhibition

Take a moment to stop by [First Bank of Highland Park](#) to view the exhibit displaying photos and personal comments from our riders, as well as information on our program on their Ruth Fell Wander Community Art Wall throughout the month of January.

First Bank of Highland Park is located at 1835 First Street in Highland Park, IL. Please stop by during banking hours Monday-Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm and Saturday 8:30 am to 1:00 pm.

One Dime at a Time Whole Foods Market Deerfield

Horsefeathers will be a recipient of [Whole Foods Market](#) in Deerfield's One Dime at a Time program. They offer all customers 10 cents for every bag they reuse. You can choose do donate your bag refund to Horsefeathers from January 2010 thru March 2010.

Join our newsletter

Typing e-mails does not seem to be our strongest asset. If you did not receive this e-mail directly, please pardon the omission as it was definitely not on purpose. The rumours that Calvin ate them are just not true. To join click [here](#).

And installment 2 of our inside look at our horses (and ponies)...

As the Barn Turns... a continuing equine serial by Lynda Vital & friends

Well, as Red Rover pondered the meaning of life, or rather, the fact that he had furry knickers on, a strange aura was developing in the barn. The horses all felt some interesting vibes out there, and being horses and all, did not quite understand what was going on.

"I heard the humans talking about some kind of holiday party the other day," said Big Red. "Don't know what that means at all."

"Well, they just had a big birthday party - remember the night all the people came and there was food and games and what-not?" answered Calvin.

"Oh yeah, we got some extra carrots and treats, if I recall correctly," said Red. "Well, if we're having another party like that, I'm all for it."

The horses all munched on their hay for a few minutes, happily contemplating the thought of another party with more treats.

Then another voice was heard. "What about these stockings on our doors? What's with those?" asked Poco.

Scatman, the oldest boy in the group, knew about that one. "Those are our stockings that Santa will fill for us soon. That means more treats!"

He told them about the holidays and how all the humans run around madly buying gifts for each other, and how Santa comes from the North Pole in his sleigh and brings presents and fills everyone's stockings with treats.

Although some of the horses were a bit skeptical of this story, they liked the part about the treats.

"Who pulls Santa's sled in the snow?" Ice wanted to know. "The Budweiser horses, probably, eh? Santa would need big, strong horses for that job!"

Tia and Elsie clued him in on that one. "Oh, no," said Tia. "Santa flies in the sky and a team of reindeer pulls the sled."

Elsie added that Santa went all around the world and in just one night, delivered all the presents to good girls and boys and horses.

All the horses went back to munching on their hay, now, because this story was just a bit much to be believed. They hoped it was true, but who ever heard of flying reindeer?

Well, as you can see in the picture, one bright, moonlit night, the Horsefeathers horses found out that the magical story was true. They had been let out into the pasture to get some exercise, and all of a sudden they heard the sound of little bells.

Red Rover, being the littlest of the group, was a bit nervous. "Where is that noise coming from?" he asked.

"Why, look - up in the sky!" answered Elsie. "It is just as we told you, it is Santa and his sleigh, and you can count the reindeer-there are eight of them!"

All of a sudden, a Santa hat appeared on each of the horses' heads! They all looked up at Santa and the reindeer as they flew across the moon, and they all knew they would have stockings full of treats in the morning. They knew it was the magic of the holidays, and they all felt like the luckiest horses in the world.....which they are.

Thanks so much for your support!

Nick & Kristi

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