



Welcome to the belated April 2010 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.

Congrats to the winner of our first raffle! Hope they like their new TV. Thanks to all who helped with the raffle.

Congrats also to our Speech Therapist, Jean Meyer and our Occupational Therapist Paula Lundell who have completed their certification for Level I Hippotherapy and Equine Skills from the American Hippotherapy Association.

Happy Mothers' Day - to everyone who is a mother or has had one.

Cheering, clapping and treats needed...

Our second horse show of the season is this Friday, May 28th starting at 5:00 pm. Please drop by and cheer on our riders, grab or bring a snack and have some fun. No charge, unless you count carrots (see Calvin).

Surfing and clicking needed...

One way that search engines decide which sites to return in which order is by the most visited sites from previous searches on their site. So help us out, search for combinations of Horsefeathers and Hippotherapy, Therapeutic Riding, Autism, Equine Assisted Therapy, etc. Then find us in the results and click on our site, checking out a couple of pages. Search for things like "Horsefeathers Hippotherapy Winnetka" (or your home town.)

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

Important dates to remember...

- [Boy Scout Crew & Troop 333](#), 1st and 3rd Sundays, 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm
- [Horse Show](#) Schedule:
 - Friday, May 28th, 2010
 - Friday, June 11th, 2010
 - Friday, July 9th, 2010
- [Special Olympics](#), September 11th - September 12th, 2010



Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:

- Field Trips
 - Wednesday, May 12th, 9:30 - 11:30
 - Thursday, May 20th, 10:00 - 12:30
- CEL (Center for Enriched Living)
 - Fridays, April 9th, 2010 thru May 21st, 2010, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. We expect 6-10 riders, so we will need 15-20 volunteers.
 - Sundays, April 11th, 2010 thru May 16th, 2010 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm. We expect 15 riders, so we will need 15-20 volunteers.
- Summer Camps, sponsored by other organizations, weekday mornings and afternoons
 - CEL Adventure Camp (10 riders) Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm from June 15th, 2010 to July 29th, 2010.
 - YMCA Camp (10 riders) Thursdays, 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm from June 17th, 2010 to August 12th, 2010.
 - Keshet Camp (15 riders) Tuesdays, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm from June 22nd, 2010 to August 3rd, 2010.
 - Keshet (25 riders)
 - Friday, July 16th, 2010, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
 - Wednesday, August 11th, 2020, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

If you would like to more information about any of these events, drop us an e-mail to info@horsefeatherscenter.org or call us at 847-234-2411.

That sharing feeling...

We 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

Boy Scout Crew & Troop 333

Boy Scout Crew 333 is a registered Search and Rescue unit and has been serving in the Lake Forest community since 2001. In 2009, Horsefeathers formed [Boy Scout Troop 333](#). Horsefeathers is proud to sponsor both. Meetings are held on the first and third Sundays of each month from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm.

Scouting enables boys from 11 to 17 years of age to work towards the highest rank, the Eagle Scout Award. Many fine men went to college due to scholarships available to Eagle Scouts. For more information, see Nick Coyne.

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 rumors that Calvin ate them are just not true. To join click [here](#).

And now installment 6 of our inside look at our horses (and ponies)...

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

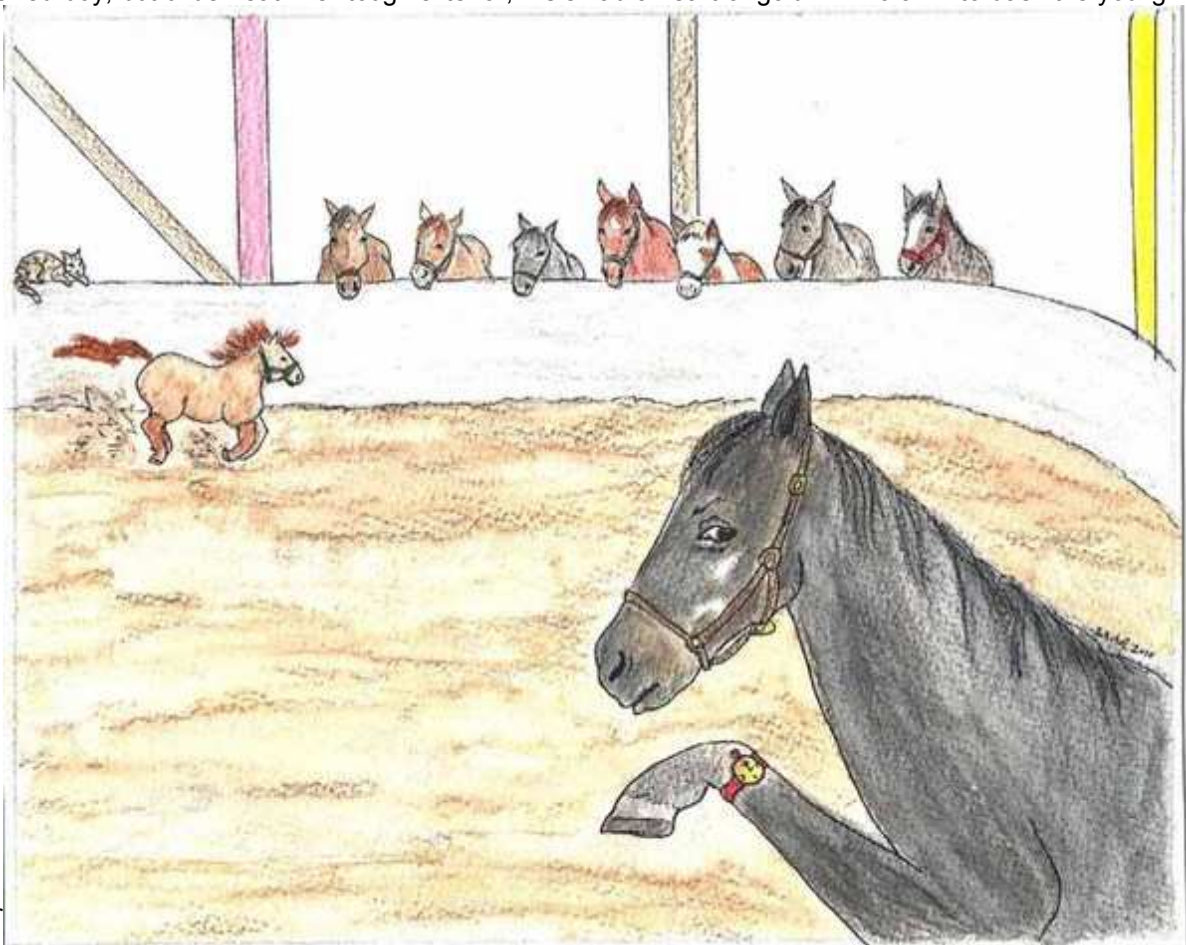
Last month's installment had Rover envisioning a new life of fame and fortune for himself, as the first pony to enter and win the Kentucky Derby. He had started training diligently under the wise tutelage of Elsie, a former racehorse herself. Many horses would have laughed at our dear little red boy, but underneath her tough exterior, Elsie had a heart of gold. "Who am I to dash the young 'un's dreams?" she said.

So every day, the Horsefeathers gang watched in awe as Rover went through the paces, Elsie with her stop-watch overseeing the workouts. Meanwhile, Kristi found out to her surprise that there was no rule stating that a pony could NOT enter the derby, so Rover's application had been accepted.

One fine day, Rover and Elsie were loaded into their trailer as all the other horses whinnied madly, and wished them good luck. "We'll be rootin' for you, Rover!" said Calvin. The new horse, Harley added, "Don't forget us when you get famous!"

Rover had a few days to practice for the race. As he did some sprints one morning, he noticed a very pretty little pony watching him from the sidelines. After he finished, he walked by her and she gave him a shy horsey-smile. He smiled back and they started chatting, and he learned that she lived in a barn right near Horsefeathers! He told her of his dream to win the Derby and become the most famous pony in America.

Rover told Elsie all about his new friend, whose name was Daisy, and although she seemed interested, he noticed she also looked a little sad. He asked her if she was OK.



"Oh, yes," said Elsie. "I am so glad you found a nice girlfriend. It just brought back some old memories. When I was a young filly I met a handsome white stallion, and we were inseparable. He also dreamed of fame and fortune, and he started winning a lot of races. A rich man decided to buy him and take him far away to be a professional racehorse like my grandpa, Man-o-War. They took him away in a trailer one day and that was the last time I ever saw him."

Rover said he was very sorry about that happening, and Elsie told him not to worry. "I am happy now. I have a good life and true friends. But think about that fame and fortune thing, Rover," she said. "Sometimes you pay a heavy price for it."

All of a sudden, Rover started having second thoughts about being famous. In fact, he didn't sleep well that night; he dreamed that he was going somewhere far away and had no friends and just had to practice all day to win races.

Next day, he got on his special outfit for the race and he lined up with all the other horses in the starting gate. They all blasted off like lightning, and Rover was holding his own. Then he saw Daisy cheering him on from the sidelines - that sure made him feel good, but only for a second. Then he started worrying. "What if they send me away like the white stallion?" He thought not only of his new girlfriend, but of all his buddies back at Horsefeathers. He thought of how he loved his stall and his little riders and Kristi and Nick and all the volunteers who were so nice to him.

He was thinking so much about all these things, that he didn't realize he had slowed down and was now in last place! The funniest thing was that Daisy was still cheering for him, and so was Elsie. And so were all the spectators, because they just couldn't believe they were seeing such a brave little pony out there running with all those fancy thoroughbreds. In fact, the cheering was louder for Rover than it was for the winner of the Derby!

"Well, I guess I am famous in my own way, and now I can officially retire from the world of horse-racing," he said to Elsie and Daisy. "I can go back to my regular life with all my friends, and not have to go on talk shows and be in Horse Illustrated magazine." Daisy promised she'd come visit him at Liberty Farms, and Elsie just sighed, and thought of her white stallion. Her big tough-girl heart beamed with pride at what she and her little pony friend had managed to accomplish. She left her stop-watch at the track, and looked forward to going home to hang out with Tia and the boys.

As always, thanks so much for your support!

Nick & Kristi

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