

The D.O.V.E.s Guidance Program

Discovering Our Visions Through Equestrian Services - A Family & Youth Horsemanship Program

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 5 NEWSLETTER

EDITOR: GAYLE OXFORD MAR/APRIL/MAY/JUNE

*“Our Mission is to give a special child, a special experience, a time and place to remember”
With the use of equine & ranch activities along with family participation & support,
It is our goal to help children of all ages & backgrounds to build trust, confidence & character.
Encouraging each child to challenge themselves in ways that will develop them into caring & responsible adults.*

1st Anniversary Event - Big Success!

People came from all over the county! The weather was awesome which made for a great day out in the country with horses and farm animals and a bar-b-q, along with some old fashion gunny sack races for the children. We had lots of help and many nice items for the silent auction.



Deena Kirby of All Seasons Carriage Co. brought her wagonette and Winston and Rocket, her two big Percherons and gave wagon rides throughout the day. Dyanne Pate along with Chris Patterson brought two white ponies for the kids to paint. Robin McAninch and Christy Dempewolf gave pony rides and photos and Phyllis Neese helped out loading people on the

wagon with Nancy Hill as our official photographer of the day. The California State Horseman’s Royalty attended, Junior Miss Aubry Bassett and Little Miss Kalynn Bassett. The two girls rode their beautiful Morgan horses around the ranch and gave equitation demonstrations throughout the afternoon. Chris Costa gave us a seminar on horse training and helped out the kids at the roping dummy!

Richard Holden and Kay Nichols handled the bar-b-q with hot dogs and buns donated by Payless Market in Lockeford, and kept the lemon aid and ice tea available.

Many people donated items for the silent auction. We had quite the variety of tack, clothing training supplies, arts and crafts. Although we didn’t



have the best turn out of bids on these items, we did make a bit of money for the program.

We ended the day with a barn drawing for some fun stuff for the kids and a piñata that was busted open and all the kids scrambled for the candy! All in all our 1st Annual Benefit Event was a great success!



News on our new horses!

The Doves Program has a new horse! A 10 year old Mustang Pintoosa mare named Sally (her name was Molly but we already have a Molly so we changed it). Sally was donated to us by Janine Ryerson.

Sally will be getting some continued training before she will be used in the program. More on Sally in the next issue.



Socks is a five year old mini gelding. He was given to my grand daughter Olivia Dempewold by Denise Nelson. Olivia & Denise have generously agree to let Socks work in the Doves program. The little kids will be able to ride him. We also hope to finish his traning as a harness pony. Socks likes to do "parlor tricks"! He is a very handsome boy and really likes our other mini horse Star. We are very blessed to have Socks in our program!



Summer Schedule

With the hot weather approaching lessons will be scheduled in the morning hours and the early evening hours. If the temperature is going to be 95+ plus we will not have lessons on that day. We are currently having lessons on Tues., Weds., and Thurs.

Reminder: Please be on time as we have at tight schedule, back to back lessons. Please try to give 24 hr. notice if you have to cancel your lesson.

Reminder: Appropriate clothing is a requirement, for modesty and safety. Please read the ranch rules dress code - **appropriate clothing is a must!**

The Web-site

My daughter, Bonnie Horn, of Forney Texas has volunteered to set up and maintain our web-site, Yeah! All the DOVES forms, announcements, info and lots of photos are on the site. It is up date often so please check it out often:

www.thedovesprogam.com

Thank you Bonnie!



Your Program. Your Horses!

I have had several folks ask how they can contribute or help with expenses. Here are some suggestions:

Gift certificates from the local feed stores: Robinson's and Lockeford Hay Station.

A bag of carrots or a bag of horse cookies for the horses. With all the kids enjoying giving the horses a treat, we go through a lot of carrots and cookies, much to the horses delight!

We need sponsors and donation! If you know of a organization or company that you think may want to become a sponsor or donor let us know and we will get you the sponsor forms.

Who Can Benefit?

Anyone! Children and families who have not had the opportunity to experience the country and ranch life. School & Church Groups for field trips. Parents that are considering a horse for their child, and want to know what the responsibility is in owning a horse. And, especially children or youths at risk, abused or troubled kids. A positive experience with a horse can build a child's confidence and trust. **Again, there is no charge or fees.** The time a child and family spend with a horse in a quite ranch atmosphere is priceless.

Our horses benefit also, some came from situations of neglect and they love the attention!

We still have a horses that need sponsors. If you know of anyone or business or group that would like to sponsor a horse for a year, please ask us for the Horse Sponsorship forms.

Meet Our Volunteers - Our Doves!

How to Help

Because we are a non profit program and do not charge a fee for the program lessons, all monies to support the horses maintenance & care, and to maintain a clean and safe facility, must come from donations or sponsors.

Ways to Help:

- ✂ Donate money
- ✂ Donate tack or supplies
- ✂ Donate Feed and or services
- ✂ Help with fund raising
- ✂ Ask about sponsoring a horse
- ✂ Volunteer or Mentor

Most donations are tax deductible and donated money goes into the general fund, unless otherwise specified.

I know we are all in "tight times" right now, so getting donations can be difficult, the cost of everything is going up, especially the cost of feeding a horse!. But, you or someone you know may be able to "donate" time and or services. Also, taking our brochure and donation forms to local businesses to ask for donations or items of use is another way to contribute. Pass the word about our program and what it has done for your family!

Robin McAninch



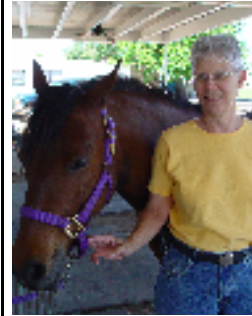
Robin resides in Lodi, California; see contacted us to volunteer for the program after reading the article about the DOVES in the Lodi News Sentinel.

Robin retired after 26 years in the retail business and has raised a family, two daughters and a son. She has volunteer experience in the PTA, football, Booster and was an Alateen Sponsor.

Robin has owned horses and enjoys trail riding and riding her grand daughter's horse. Robin has a great attitude and enjoys working with the program children and horses; she has a natural ability to communicate with them.

Robin says she wants to learn all she can about horses and working with the children, it gives her a good feeling about what she is doing in her life. Robin is going to make a great Saddle Pal!

Phyllis Neese



Phyllis is a long time friend, 20 plus years. After 38 years of teaching High School in Manteca Ca. Phyllis retired in May 2008. She has been a resident of Stockton Ca, for

many years. Just after retiring she took up a life long love – riding horses! Phyllis sponsors and keeps one of our horses, Toby, "tuned" up and takes him on occasional trial rides with the Oxfords.

Phyllis states that volunteering for the program is a way of giving to others. Phyllis also has a natural ability with riding and after 38 years of working with children in a teaching and learning environment, she has a natural way of communicating with the kids!

Our program has continued to be blessed with support and donations! We can not tell you enough how we appreciate it! The Lord continues to provide and to lead!

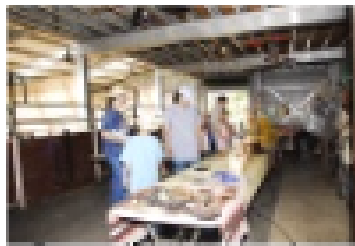
Our Needs List

- * Portable office unit
- * Concrete foundation & labor for the donated barn (when completed, we will be able to take in 5 more horses for the program)
- * Tractor & Implements
- * Arena Panels, Sand fill for rd/pen
- * Roadbase materials
- * Hay
- * Helmets * Kids size cowboy boots

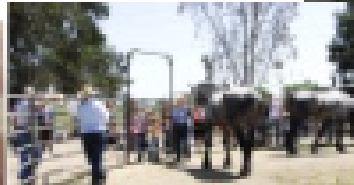
Our Wish List

- * Manure spreader
- * Kid's saddles
- * grooming tools
- * volunteers & mentors
- * Feeders, hanging or standing hay feeders.
- * 12" child's saddle
- * disc for garden tractor

Our 1st Annual Benefit Event - April 25th, 2009
It was a Wonderful time!



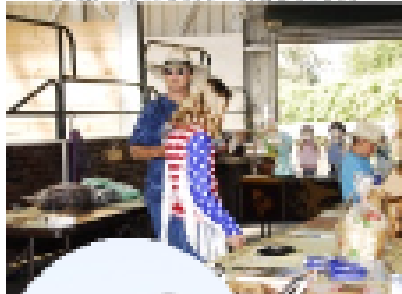
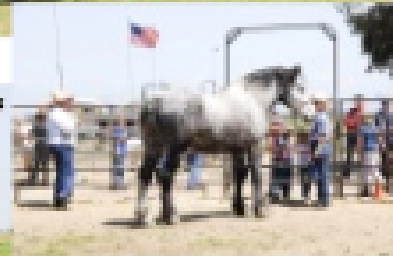
Our silent auction



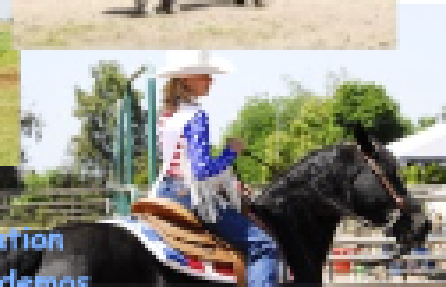
Meeting Western & Rocket - the gentle giants



Becca Kirby of All Seasons Carriage Co. giving wagon ride!



Calif. State Horseman's Association Royalty giving riding demos



Krisa Costa giving a seminar on horse safety



Photo - Candy Scribble!



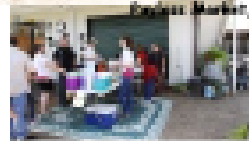
Free Bar-B-Q! Bar-B-Q & Barbeque by Dennis Martin, Lockford



Pony Photos



Lamb petting and feeding



Roping & wrangling



Feed sack race!



Pony Painting



Western & Rocket - Percherons

Photos by Nancy Hill

Our First Voluneer DOVE



Chris Patterson

Chris is one of our first volunteers to help with instructing the children to ride. Chris has had horses most of her life, and is an avid trail rider.

She has a big, stout Appaloosa gelding named Charlie, who she rides regularly on the lake trails in our area.

Chris & Gayle have known each other since 1973, when they met at a Appaloosa horse club meeting and have been close and dear friends ever since, sharing many trails and family outings and times together. Chris is a trusted mentor to our program kids and families helping out where ever and when even she can.

Chris was recently featured in the Lodi News Sentinel 7/10/09 in a article about volunteers, in the Panorama section.



Reminders



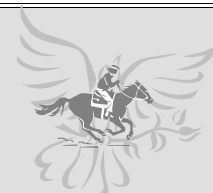
Cell Phones off!

Please be supportive of you child during lessons. We encourage you to observe and or participate in grooming and helping your child with chores, please leave business at home. This is your child's time to shine and should be shared with parents.

Parents need to ware appropriate clothing & footwear if you plan to participate.

HOT, HOT, HOT!

Remember, if the forecast is 95+, check in with Gayle to see if your lesson will be as scheduled.
209.329.7034



Tips for a fun session at the ranch:

- * *Be on time.*
- * *Come prepared, sunscreen, insect repellent, bottled water and a snack.*
- * *Bring a camera, take photos of your child to share with them & family.*
- * *Help out where you can, sweeping raking and poop*

A Special Thanks to Our Donors & Sponsors!

Payless Market - Donated hot dogs and buns for the Benefit Event.

Deena Kirby, All Seasons Carriage Co.

Donated her time to bring her wagon and draft horses to the 1st Annual Benefit Event. Thank You, Deena!

Dyanne Pate & Chris Patterson -

Supplying and organizing the pony painting for our Annual Benefit!

Denise Nelson - allowing The Doves the use of Socks, a pinto mini.

Virginia Lewis - Monthly donations.

Bruce & Burna Jamison - Donation

Our biggest expense for the DOVES Program is feeding the horses that are used in the program.

Hay & grain prices have sky rocketed! If you know of any organization or individual who would like to donate feed or money or sponsor a horse please let us know!

Phylis Neese - Horse Sponsorship

John & Anna Charlesworth - Horse Sponsorship.

Sara Heitz - Donation of Saddles and horse tack, a very generous donation!

Janine Ryerson - Donated a Pinto mare - Sally to the Doves!

Rosanna Iverson-Berdahl - Horse Tack.

When making a donation by check, please make payable to: ***The DOVES Program***

*The D.O.V.E.S. Guidance Program
at
Oxford Ranch*

13749 E. Kettleman Lane
Lodi, Ca. 95240



THE D.O.V.E.S.