



BITS O'News

A monthly newsletter of *Back In The Saddle Equine Therapy Center*

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MAY 2013

May at BITS

Much to the delight of the horses, our pastures are greening up nicely and mud season is finally over. Thanks to manager Katy Duffey and her crew of volunteers, the barn and grounds look marvelous, and ready for another full season of riding!

Volunteers

BITS continues to offer monthly training of volunteers to assist with lessons. If you don't already volunteer, please consider getting trained! If you DO volunteer, thank you! And please tell your friends and family how much fun it is, and how much we could use their help, too! **Next training: Saturday, May 25, 10am-12 pm.**

Volunteers are also needed to clear pastures of fallen logs left over from last year's microburst. One of the front pastures in particular really needs attention to make it useable again.

Where's Cover Girl?

BITS's goodwill ambassador Cover Girl has been spotted throughout the state this spring, spreading smiles and the good word about BITS wherever she goes. She attended the Disabilities Fair hosted by the Autism Network of New London, at Colby Sawyer College last month; and is scheduled to attend the **Adoptive Families Fun Day Event** at Spaulding Youth Center on Saturday, May 18, from 1pm to 3pm. Next she will be in **Plymouth** to march in the **Town's Parade** celebrating the town's 250th year; Babe, who will be driven by his owner, Sue Strasen, will be joining her. If you would like to volunteer to march in the parade, please contact us for times and promotional ideas. Cover Girl's next scheduled appearance is June 14 from 2:30 on at the **NH Veteran's Home**. It looks to be another busy summer for our intrepid diplomat!

What's New with the Herd

Babe, our new Shetland pony on loan from Sue Strasen, is fitting in nicely with the herd, and has found Dinah to be his special friend...the feeling seems to be mutual. Look for photos on our Facebook page. Babe and the Minis are enjoying their new fly masks produced especially for them by the Black Dog Farm in Bradford, NH. They really appreciate the fast service provided, and are much more comfortable now that fly season has arrived.

Rosy, our new quarter horse, is currently being treated for a cut on her leg, but the vet says it should heal up fine, with daily soaks, and antibiotics. Would anyone like to volunteer to help in the mornings or evenings to apply needed Epsom salt soaks over the next six days or so?

Wish List

- Promotional decals and curtains for Cover Girl's van.
- ATV for moving hay and heavier items about the farm.
- Stock tank for backfields
- Lumber for fence repair
- Fencing and tractor for chickens, which will be rotated as the grass comes in.
- Truck and horse trailer for the larger horses.
- Driving harness and cart for Dinah.

Lessons

Would you like to take riding lessons, but work or go to school during the week? Saturday morning lessons are available for able bodied as well as those living with disabilities. Sign up today to reserve your spot for this summer!