

# Everything Equine

Free  
February 2009

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Win a Horseback  
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See page 20.



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2nd Annual  
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6PM TO 11PM**

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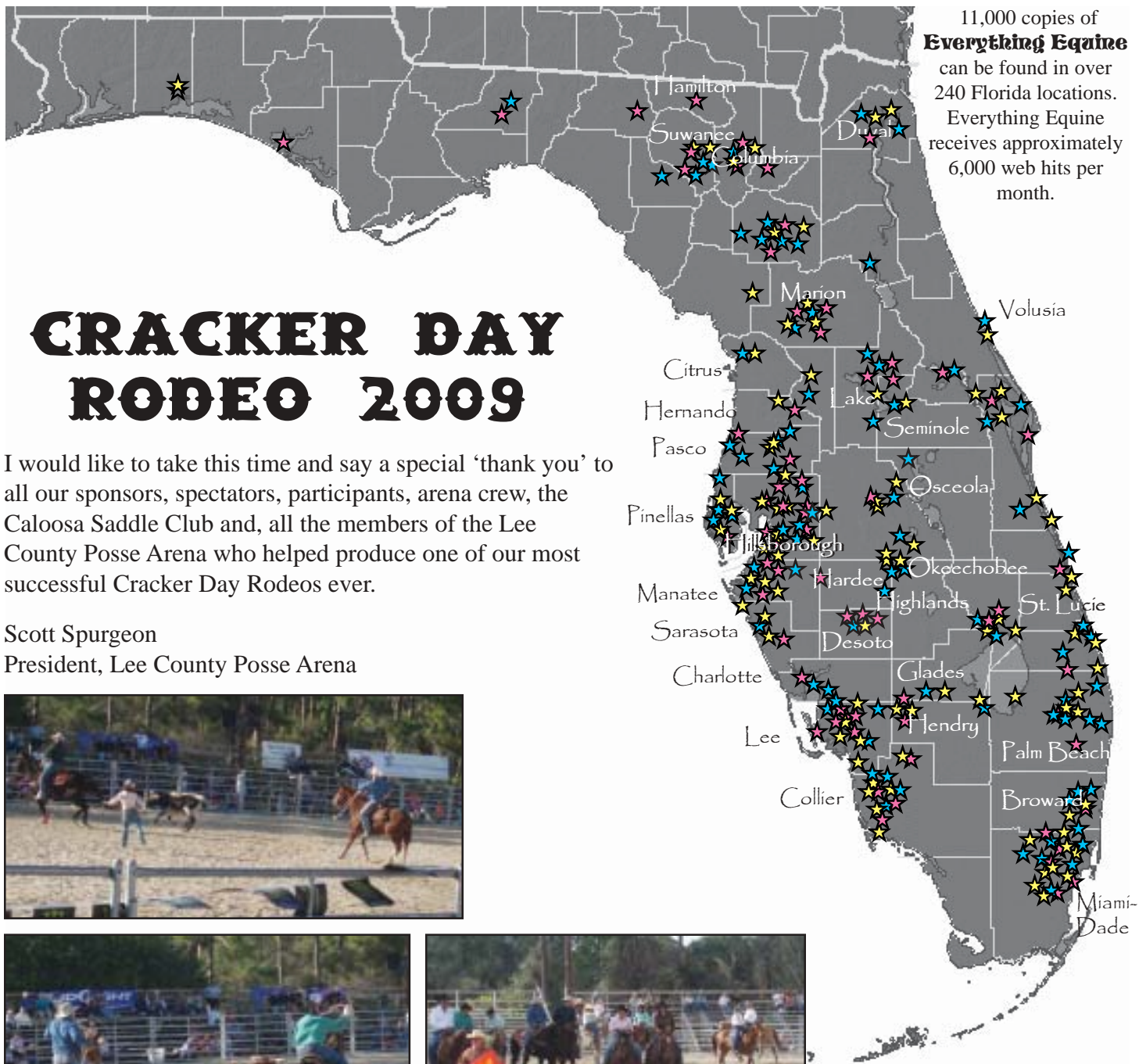
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- \* live auction
- \* professional line dancers
- \* complimentary valet





11,000 copies of **Everything Equine** can be found in over 240 Florida locations. Everything Equine receives approximately 6,000 web hits per month.

# CRACKER DAY RODEO 2009

I would like to take this time and say a special ‘thank you’ to all our sponsors, spectators, participants, arena crew, the Caloosa Saddle Club and, all the members of the Lee County Posse Arena who helped produce one of our most successful Cracker Day Rodeos ever.

Scott Spurgeon  
President, Lee County Posse Arena



# Everything Equine

Melody Halperin

460 6th St NE

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Comments and/or suggestions are welcome!

Subscriptions are available.

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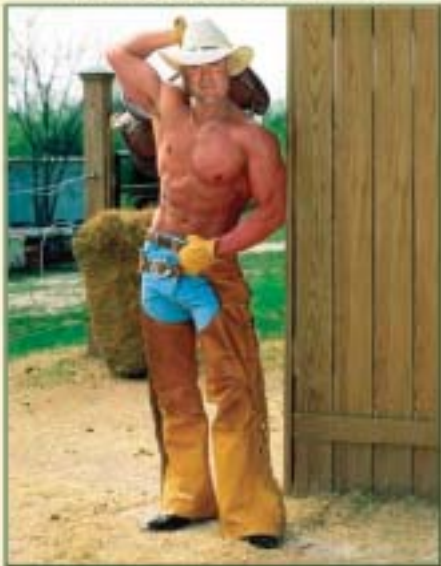
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Signature



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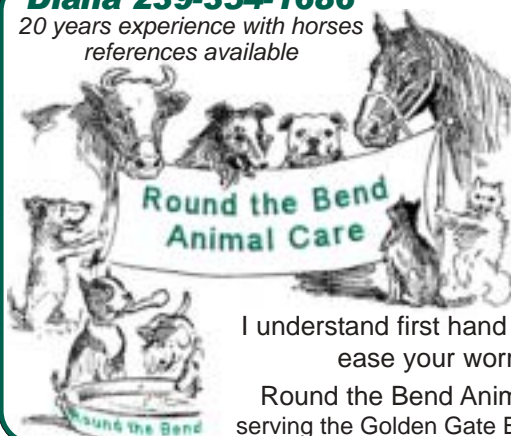


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or call 239-434-7480.

## Can bow-leggedness be corrected?

**Q:**

Can bow-leggedness, a confirmation  
problem in horses, be corrected?

**A:**

A bow-legged horse has a flexural  
deformity originating at the knee or carpus  
joint. A straight leg is divided in half by an  
imaginary perpendicular line drawn down  
from the point of shoulder to the ground.

In a bow-legged horse, the knee is typically to the  
outside of this line. Many young horses grow out of this  
deformity with little to no intervention. Bow-leggedness  
is not correctable once the horse is of a mature age and  
the bones have stopped growing. However, if the horse  
is under 2 years of age, surgical intervention (with your  
veterinarian's recommendation) is an option. Other  
veterinary therapies may be a possibility. As with any  
other conformational problem, consult your veterinarian  
to discuss what treatments may be best.

Answer provided by Carey Williams, Ph.D.,  
Rutgers Cooperative Extension.

[http://www.esrutgers.com/  
ask\\_expert/ate\\_emo.htm#bow](http://www.esrutgers.com/ask_expert/ate_emo.htm#bow)





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# TRIPLE V RANCH

239-417-4VVV(4888)  
TripleVRanch@aol.com  
2960 Newman Drive Naples, FL 34114

Thank you to all our friends from the equine community for supporting our open house and making it such a success! Also, special thanks to Katie Berney who flew in from California to grace us with a very special two day hunter/jumper/equitation clinic that was extremely well attended and enjoyed by all!!!



Kudos to Gary and his team for the exciting team driving exhibition which was the highlight of the day! Keep the following dates open as we are trying to organize the first ever local Marshall and Sterling League horse shows at The Triple V Ranch: March 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, April 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, May 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>. Check out our yahoo group <http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/triplevranch/> for more information on events and news at the ranch. If you missed the open house contact me for a personal tour. We currently have one stall left!!!

Sincerely,  
Virginia Condello



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— N A P L E S —

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\$25 hand includes free lunch - Start time 9:30 AM

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\* a portion of the proceeds to benefit the Muse Volunteer Fire Department

## What are "things you might find in a tack room?"

Play along and find the 33 clues to  
this Jeopardy answer!

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| Breastcollar | Longeline  |
| Breastplate  | Martingale |
| Bridle       | Nylon      |
| Browband     | Pick       |
| Brush        | Rack       |
| Buckle       | Reins      |
| Cavason      | Rope       |
| Comb         | Saddle     |
| Conditioner  | Shampoo    |
| Girth        | Sidereins  |
| Hackamore    | Sponge     |
| Halter       | Stirrup    |
| Harness      | Surcingle  |
| Hook         | Tiedown    |
| Irons        | Trunk      |
| Leather      | Wraps      |
| Leathers     |            |

(answers on page 14)

Find the words in the grid. Words can go across, down and in two diagonals.

P	H	M	A	R	T	I	N	G	A	L	E	Q	H	S	G	I	R	T	H
L	N	L	O	N	G	E	L	I	N	E	R	S	M	D	P	F	M	E	K
E	W	H	P	T	R	F	B	C	H	B	U	E	N	K	Q	O	L	C	B
A	L	S	I	T	O	M	R	R	A	R	R	Z	I	P	N	D	N	F	K
T	D	I	C	R	P	L	O	D	B	V	L	I	R	N	D	Y	R	G	Y
H	M	D	K	Q	E	J	W	X	K	E	A	E	D	A	S	J	L	T	E
E	K	E	F	C	G	R	B	K	L	L	N	S	S	L	K	W	S	O	W
R	R	R	L	M	C	N	A	G	Y	O	S	B	O	D	E	P	M	Y	N
X	K	E	R	X	R	X	N	T	I	S	H	I	R	N	A	H	K	X	S
B	Z	I	G	J	N	I	D	T	E	H	F	A	R	R	P	C	N	R	N
H	Z	N	L	Y	C	L	I	N	F	A	L	T	W	O	A	W	E	M	G
C	A	S	M	R	K	D	R	X	Q	L	N	R	F	R	N	H	W	K	G
T	T	C	U	L	N	A	X	L	O	T	C	U	V	R	T	S	F	T	N
L	I	S	K	O	H	G	T	C	T	E	O	N	L	A	G	B	Q	B	W
N	Q	E	C	A	Z	L	T	C	T	R	M	K	E	B	U	C	K	L	E
Q	Y	N	D	J	M	S	P	M	N	V	B	L	D	V	D	Z	N	R	Y
K	N	B	N	O	A	O	D	X	T	L	H	O	O	K	Z	P	T	N	C
B	G	B	L	E	W	B	R	E	A	S	T	P	L	A	T	E	C	K	Y
T	M	J	R	Q	Y	N	L	E	K	R	N	S	T	I	R	R	U	P	M
W	N	B	F	Y	S	H	A	M	P	O	O	D	T	K	T	B	F	T	T

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## Good Dental Hygiene

Often overlooked as part of a horse's overall health, equine dental hygiene can solve many common training and riding problems, prevent some lamenesses, reduce veterinary and feed bills and make the horse healthier and happier. Most dental problems can be prevented with regular equine dental maintenance. All horses, regardless of breed and use should have their teeth attended to twice a year. Ninety-nine percent of all horses have dental problems: sharp edges, overhanging hooks, wolfteeth, or misshapen teeth that can interfere with the bit. The majority of these will not go away by themselves. Feeding hard corn or special diets will not smooth down sharp edges or correct hooks or malocclusion.

### Listen to Your Horse

The majority of horses display dental problems in their behavior. All of the following are symptoms of problems in the mouth.

### When You Train or Ride Your Horse is He:

- ˆ Resistant and tense in his neck & body?
- ˆ Behind or above the vertical (the bit)?
- ˆ Unwilling to bend to the left or right?
- ˆ Moving with short steps?

- ˆ Refusing/rushing fences?
- ˆ Jumping with his back hollow?
- ˆ Heavy on left or right rein or pulls the reins through your hands?
- ˆ Does he flip or play with the bit?
- ˆ Tossing his head?

### Watch Your Horse Eat:

- ˆ Is he slow?
- ˆ Does he wet his hay before he eats it?
- ˆ Do you find his hay in his water bucket?
- ˆ Does he take a mouthful of hay before going to his grain?
- ˆ Does he refuse to eat hard food?
- ˆ Does he dive his head into the feed tub, or eat with his head up?



### Look at Your Horse's Manure:

- ˆ Is it very soft?
- ˆ Can you see undigested feed in it?

If a horse exhibits any of these symptoms, he probably needs the attention of an equine dental technician before his behavior can be modified through training. Many horses are labeled difficult when they are simply trying to say that their mouths hurt.





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Hendry  
Hendry

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Hendry

Hendry

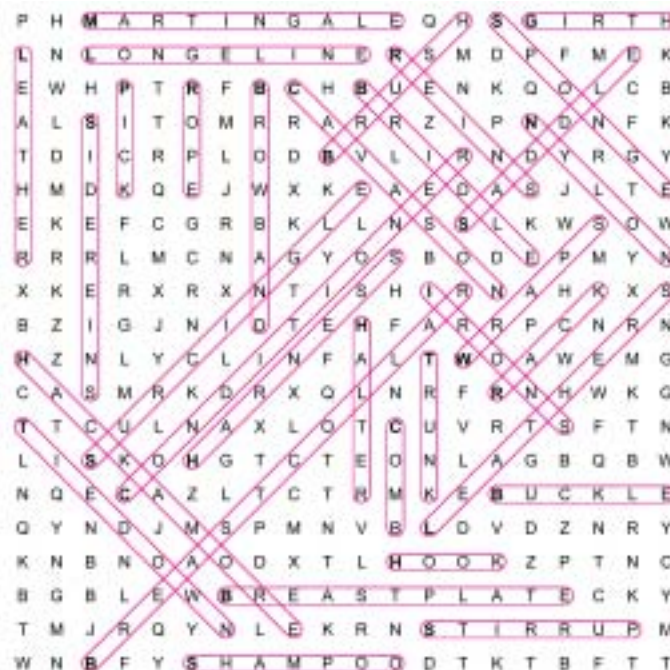
# HORSE TREATS

- 1 cup oatmeal
- 1 cup bran cereal (any brand)
- 1 cup finely chopped carrots
- 1 tsp. Salt
- 2 tbsp. brown sugar
- 2 tbsp. Vegetable oil
- ¼ cup water
- ¼ cup molasses

Preheat oven to 350 and spray cookie sheet pan with an oil spray (Pam). Mix all ingredients together in a bowl. Lightly oil your hands, so that the dough does not stick to them. Roll into 1-inch balls, place on pan, and bake for 15 minutes or until golden brown. Cookie balls may be placed close together, since they do not flatten or lose their shapes.

For special days, like Valentine's Day, shape the mixture into heart shapes before baking!

## Answers from page 9







## **Lee County Horseman's Association**

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#### **HUNTER/JUMPER DIVISION SCHEDULE**

*Lee County Civic Center—North Fort Myers*

#### **SATURDAY & SUNDAY**

**Dec. 20 (Saturday only show)**

**Jan. 17 & 18**

**Feb. 14 & 15**

**March 28 & 29**

**Apr. 18 & 19**

**May 16 & 17**

*Refer to website for Prize list and start times*

#### **SPEED DIVISION SCHEDULE**

*Lee County Posse Arena—North Fort Myers*  
**Registration 1pm—Show Starts 2pm**

**SATURDAY Dec 13**

**SATURDAY Jan 10**

**SATURDAY Feb 14**

**SATURDAY March 14**

**SATURDAY April 11**

**SATURDAY May 9**

*Refer to website for Prize list and Patterns*  
**Contact Jane Hall 239-340-1127**

#### **PERFORMANCE DIVISION SCHEDULE**

*Lee County Civic Center—North Fort Myers*  
**Show Starts at 8am**

**SUNDAY Dec. 7**

*(December Show At Posse Arena)*

**SUNDAY Jan. 11**

**SUNDAY Feb. 8**

**SUNDAY March 22**

**SUNDAY April 26**

**SUNDAY May 10**

*Refer to website for Prize list*  
**Contact Lori Darr 239-229-2633**

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# Why Horses Get Gastric Ulcers

By Dr. Richard Shakalis ( co-founder and researcher for SBS Equine Products )

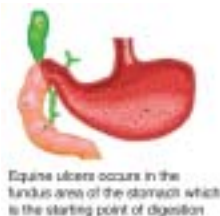
Horses have evolved to eat many small meals per day, almost on a continual basis. Even though the horse's stomach is only 8 percent of digestive tract (eight quarts or two gallons), the emptying time of the stomach can be a mere twelve minutes and the rate of passage through the small intestine one foot per minute. The small volume of the stomach and the rapid passage of food to the small intestine is the reason that horses can and are designed to eat almost continuously. Gastric pH can drop lower than 2 soon after a horse stops consuming food and the stomach will continue to produce strong acid even if food is not present. Concentrate feeding can inadvertently contribute to ulcer formation by its influence on increasing serum gastric levels, lowering the horse's roughage intake and reducing the amount of time spent eating. Imposed feed deprivation, such as in colic management cases, can result in erosion and ulceration of the gastric mucosa as well.

In the case of racehorses, they are often not fed immediately prior to training or racing. This could result in a significant increase in stomach acidity. Also, horses can become excited during training and racing, further lowering gastric pH. These influences contribute to gastric ulceration. Studies show that the greater the degree of training activity, the increasing severity of gastric lesions. Further, lesions were induced and maintained in thoroughbred horses during simulated training, using a diet of coastal Bermuda and concentrate. Although Dr. N. J. Vatisstas stopped short of recommending all racehorses in training receive gastric ulcer treatment, he did indicate that "The truth may not be far from that".

Adult horses with ulcers exhibit a combination of poor appetite, dullness, attitude changes, decreased performance, poor body condition, rough hair coat, weight loss and colic.

## Ulcer Formation Mechanism

Gastric ulceration in horses results from an imbalance between offensive factors, e.g. acid and pepsin, and defensive factors such as mucus, bicarbonate, prostaglandins, mucosal blood flow and epithelial restitution. Most of these ulcers occur in the fundic portion of the stomach, which has a phospholipid rich, protective epithelial layer. Disruption of this barrier (mucous, surface-active phospholipids) is initial to the destruction of the stomach's surface epithelium. Because most domesticated horses do not feed constantly like nature designed them to, excess acid can ulcerate this protective layer. Unless the mucous lining is strong enough to withstand the powerful acids produced here, ulcers often develop.



## Management of Equine Gastric Ulcers

Various therapeutic protocols have been suggested for the control of equine gastric ulcers. These include antacids, (think of products such as Tums and Roloids) and H2 acid blockers such as the pharmaceutical products Pepsid and Prilosec. These treatments will reduce acid in the fundic portion of the stomach and will reduce the occurrence of ulcers, but there may be unintended negative consequences from these treatments. Stomach acid is an extremely important component of the initial stage of the digestive process. If in this initial stage of digestion there is not adequate acid present to break down food, it will pass into the small intestine only partially digested. The nutrients won't be in a form that can be absorbed in the small intestine and the horse will not be adequately nourished.

There is a better way to protect the horse from and treat gastric ulcers. When the horse is given lecithin as a nutritional supplement to his normal diet, the acid in the fundic portion of the stomach immediately breaks it down into a mix of reactive phospholipids. The phospholipids in lecithin are both hydrophilic and hydrophobic and interact with the cell membranes of the mucosal epithelium to strengthen the mucosa. Research has shown that lecithin not only treats the symptoms of equine ulcers, it cures the ulcers as well by making the stomach lining stronger at the cellular membrane level. The beneficial effects of a diet supplemented with lecithin also enhances the rest of the digestive tract as well. There has been much research to substantiate this. They also observed horses fed lecithin had reduced levels of excitability and anxiety that was attributed to the healing of gastric ulcers.

## Summary

A well studied health condition in horses is gastric ulcers. The presence of these ulcers is associated with poor condition, irritability and poor performance. Treatment options such as reducing stomach acid production is expensive and can disrupt the normal digestive process by not allowing the food to begin its initial breakdown as nature intended. A less expensive and more effective treatment is to give horses a nutritional supplement of lecithin. It strengthens the epithelial lining of the stomach treating and preventing gastric ulcers and allows for the proper absorption of nutrients in the small intestine.

Lecithin has proven a valuable natural supplement for horses to treat and prevent gastric ulcers. Lecithin granules can be added quickly and easily to a horse's daily feed ration or to almost any homemade horse treat recipe. Horse treats containing lecithin given between feedings and after training can help protect the stomach from the damaging effects of excess acid which is a natural occurrence in horses.

Special thanks to the contributions of Dr. Craig Russett, Ph.D in Animal Nutrition.

## References

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The author is Dr. Richard Shakalis, co-founder and researcher for SBS Equine Products



Estimates are that 60% of racehorses and 50% of non-racehorses have gastric ulcers that negatively impact their health.

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Alex Bogan, age 15  
Geneva, FL



Anna Bunyak, age 6  
Myakka City, FL



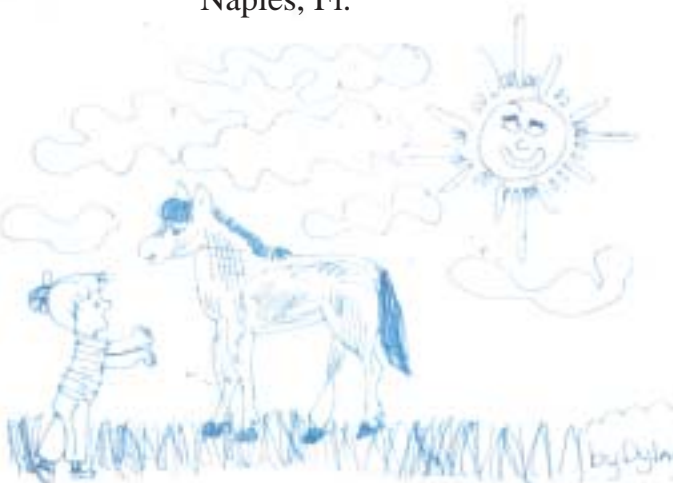
Anna Bunyak, age 6  
Myakka City, FL



Chloe Bunyak, age 8  
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Dylan Becker, age 9  
Naples, FL.



Christine Becker, age 13  
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If possible, please do not  
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**Don't see your drawing?  
Don't worry!**

All drawings submitted will be printed  
in the upcoming month's issues.

Elizabeth Halperin, age 9  
Naples, FL



**FUNNY RANCH NAMES....** by Half Vast Connie

What's in a name? Some people claim a name is who we are! I changed my name to Connie as my birth name was drawn out of a hat. I have no idea how many names were in there but I think I got the worst one! The name Connie means "stable" as in someone competent and not "mentally challenged". So some argue, after knowing me, that my name is a farce! (Smile!) My name is somehow more correct by adding the prefix "half vast"! No one seems to dispute that part!!! Perhaps the stable refers more to where I live as in the "horse stable" which is a good thing!

Some of you are quite ingenious in naming your ranches. I once heard of an old man who had a huge pig farm and it was called, "Einswine Acres! Pretty clever! Up in Tennessee I met a man who owned a plot of land. It had a lot of rocks and one could never label it "improved" so he called it, "Low Chaparral" There was a girl I used to ride with that had Paso Finos and she constantly struggled financially so the ranch sign above rightfully stated, "Lack of Dinero"!!!! I was acquainted with a girl who rode Appaloosas and, much to my dismay, she painted spots all over her horse trailer and hung a huge a sign on the back door saying, "Haulin' Apps!" Too funny! Years ago manufacturers invented an inexpensive margarine called, "Oleo". If you're old you will remember this! It was a low cost version of butter...Traveling down a dirt road one day I came across a farm sign on old weathered wood above a driveway. It said, "Oleo Acres"-The Cheaper Spread"! My favorite is the one a woman in North Florida, who appeared to be very, very busy, who identified her "helter-skelter" environment as, "At Wit's End". My neighbor's farm was simply called, "Never Ending!" As horse owners, we can all relate to that!!!

My own place is called, "Half Vast Acres". It's not small, not vast, sort of "Half Vast"! It's strange but through the years the name has assured me that I was never elected to any position...never President of anything! I wasn't asked to volunteer at functions. People simply said, "She's too 'half vast.'"

Let us be forever grateful for whatever we call our place. It is our sanctuary where we can escape from the negative aspects of the outside world and a place where we can, "scratch where it itches"--our space! Hopefully it has the joyful sound of laughter. If not, make it so. Know you are blessed to have a home. No matter how meager it may be, it is still better than none at all! Remember how it is when you go away and return home. Your words at night are always, "It's good to sleep in my own bed!" No matter what you call it, there's still no place like HOME!!!!

Horse tales is an area where original, unpublished works by local writers and artists will be featured. If you have a short story, poem, work of art or anything that you've created and are interested in seeing in print, please submit to Everything Equine. Everything Equine provides this opportunity for children and adults alike to show their creative abilities and talents to the entire community. Please limit your submissions to horse related tales that coincide with an equestrian or farm oriented way of life.

*Horse  
Tales*



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## Horseback Safaris

**Horseback Safaris** - Standard one-hour, two-hour, or three-hour horseback safaris are available daily. Horseback Safaris can be arranged for riders with varying levels of experience. All guests should be at least 12 years of age; 10 years of age is an acceptable age with proven riding experience. Guests weighing more than 275 pounds will need to be assessed by our Equestrian Director before they are allowed to take a Horseback Safari. Call-in reservations are recommended in order to assure that we and our horses are ready for you.



A favorite with visitors is our two-night "Crescent J Cattle Drive Weekend Safari," which includes some training in Florida Cowhunter skills of ridin', ropin' and cow cuttin'. (Florida cattlemen weren't "cowboys" because hunting those wild Spanish-descent cattle in Florida's woods and swamps was a man's job, they said.) Choice of campground depends on weather, type of group and recommendation of the riding instructors.

Another favorite is similar, but shorter - an Overnight Trail Ride Safari combined with a next-day "Rawhide Roundup." More time is spent riding the wilderness trails of Forever Florida and learning about nature, less on cowpoke skills.

Corporate Co-workers, Schoolteachers, Professional Club, Flying Clubs, School Groups, Church Groups, Families, Friends, Scout troops or multi-troop Camporees - there are activities and a campground on Forever Florida or the Crescent J Ranch that are just right for a bonding experience. See the Facilities and Events page for more details.

From a small primitive one-troop Scout Camp on the Crescent J that has been used by Girl and Boy Scouts for more than 30 years, we expanded to a remote but up-scale campground 'way back in the wilderness of Forever Florida, then added two campgrounds in between and most recently, a large area "up front" (near the highway) that comfortably holds up to twenty Scout troops for a big Camporee.

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## The next drawing is for a two hour horseback safari for two!

Congratulations to Elizabeth Lizalde of Dundee, FL. She won last month's drawing for a two hour Horseback Safari for two at Forever Florida!

Enjoy the ride!

There will be another drawing next month, so send in your entry form! Winner is chosen by luck of the draw. Odds of winning depend on how many entries received.

Congratulations to Sara Pewitt, who won last month's drawing for MD's Choice supplements.



## MD's Choice and Forever Florida Give-A-Way

### ways to enter

- 1) By mail. Use entry form below.
- 2) Email your request to be entered to [everythingequine@comcast.net](mailto:everythingequine@comcast.net).
- 3) Automatically be entered by submitting a classified ad.

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*One form per month enters you in all monthly drawings!*

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Must receive entry by the 20th of the month. One entry per person per month. Winner is chosen by luck of the draw.



Submit your club or organization's event and it will be posted free  
on a space permitting 1st come 1st serve basis.

# FEBRUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6 Friday night Jackpot Lee County Posse Arena 8pm	7 PGHA Performance Show See page 16
8  LCHA Performance See page 15	9	10	11	12	13	14  LCHA Speed Show See page 15  LFLC Speed Show See page 15  PGHA Speed Show See page 16  LCHA H/J See page 15  PASC show www.pasaddleclub.com
15  LCHA H/J Show pg 15	16	17	18	19	20	21  www.southfloridatruckpulls.com Truck Pulls- Posse Arena  Happy Trails Poker Ride See page 4  Gaited Horse Clinic & Exhibition Clermont, FL E- mail <a href="mailto:ctgrading@wildblue.net">ctgrading@wildblue.net</a> or 352 536-5224 for more info.
22  2009 Ocean To Lake Greenway Celebration February 20 - 22, 2009 3 Day Ride <a href="http://www.oceantolake.org">www.oceantolake.org</a>	23	24	25	26	27  <b>Ad Deadline</b>	28 SPHC Show See page 16  PGHA H/J See page 16
					Camp-out for a Cause will be held on Feb. 27 to 28, from 5 p.m. to 9:30 a.m. at Lakewood Ranch High School, 5500 Lakewood Ranch Blvd., Bradenton. For more information, email Mandy Kersey at <a href="mailto:kerseym@manateeschools.net">kerseym@manateeschools.net</a> , <a href="http://www.NapierFamilyFarm.com">www.NapierFamilyFarm.com</a> , or call Napier's Log Cabin Horse & Animal Sanctuary at (941) 750-8185.	

**Ad deadline is the 20th of February.**

## Classified Ad Rates

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	(Please circle one)	
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Medium 1/8 page	\$18	\$35
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Includes Photo and 30 words, additional words \$0.25 each		
Text only ads include 60 words, additional words \$0.25 each		
Description: (one word per box, may use additional paper if necessary)		

## Business Ad Rates

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<b>1/2 page</b>	<b>\$133</b>	<b>\$149</b>	<sup>\$150</sup> <del><b>\$176</b></del>
<b>1/4 page</b>	<b>\$90</b>	<b>\$101</b>	<sup>\$100</sup> <del><b>\$123</b></del>
<b>1/6 page</b>	<b>\$74</b>	<b>\$84</b>	<sup>\$80</sup> <del><b>\$101</b></del>
<b>1/8 page</b>	<b>\$53</b>	<b>\$58</b>	<sup>\$55</sup> <del><b>\$69</b></del>
<b>Business card</b>	<b>\$38</b>	<b>\$42</b>	<b>\$48</b>

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Classified ads are for selling a tangible item. 2 photos of the same item can go in a LARGE or EXTRA LARGE classified ad. Two or more items can be listed in the same classified ad if it is text only (no photo) or if they are closely related and being sold together. (a pair of mules or horse w/ cart) Classified ads can not list business information. A web address may be listed in a classified ad ONLY IF more information about the item for sale is listed on the web site.

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# Equine Dental Maintenance

by Wallace Ward

Mr. Ward has been practicing equine dentistry and providing educational clinics in the USA & Europe for 18 years.

**He is now living and practicing in Florida. He uses hand tools verses power tools to shape and balance the teeth. By using a calm and gentle approach, Mr. Ward does not need to sedate the horses.**

## **When You Train or Ride Your Horse Is He:**

- resistant and tense in his neck and body?
- behind or above the vertical (the bit)?
- unwilling to bend to the left or right?
- moving with short steps?
- refusing/rushing fences?
- jumping with his back hollow?
- heavy on left or right rein or pulls the reins through your hands?
- does he flip or play with the bit?
- tossing his head?

## **Watch Your Horse Eat:**

- Is he slow?
- Does he wet his hay before he eats it?
- Do you find his hay in his water bucket?
- Does he take a mouthful of hay before going to his grain?
- Does he refuse to eat hard food?
- Does he dive his head into the feed tub, or eat with his head up?



If a horse exhibits any of these symptoms, he probably needs the attention of an equine dental technician before his behavior can be modified through training. Many horses are labeled difficult when they are simply trying to say that their mouths hurt.

**Now Practicing  
in Florida!**

For an appointment or consultation call:

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**Every Horse Needs an Equine Dental Technician**