



Issue 3

March/April 2004

## Buzz Around the Barn

### HOORAY for Spring

I was never so hung up on the weather until moving to Saddle Valley. Each day – for the horses - waiting to see if we can turn them out, and for me – waiting for the smell of spring in the air (and relief). All winter, everyone’s been saying “just wait until the spring”. Now that it’s here and we have had a tease with some 60°days, I understand completely. On a beautiful day, nothing is nicer than looking out my window and seeing the horses playing in the pastures (and rolling in the mud), or going up to the barn and seeing riders trotting and cantering in the sunshine.

### Gearing up for Show Season

We are busily preparing for our horse shows, which will begin in May and go through August. With two English shows and one each - Western, Dressage and Driving - we have an ambitious schedule and something for everyone. It will be great fun. Last year’s Driving show was on the first weekend we owned the farm. The variety of horses was awesome -- from Minis to huge Shires that came all the way from Virginia for the show. With drivers in period dress and pulling antique wagons, it really was quite a spectacle. I was lucky enough to be taken for a “drive” to try it out and it was great fun. We hope you will want to participate or attend. (See our show schedule on page 2).

### Overwhelming Response to SVF Riding Academy

Last newsletter I announced the creation of Saddle Valley Riding Academy - our children’s lesson program. The phone has not stopped ringing and our first session is just about full. Many of the children started with private lesson packages over the winter and are “rearing to go”. On Sunday March 28<sup>th</sup> Jenn is holding a kick-off meeting for the children in the program and their parents in the clubroom.

### Talking about the Club Room

I know that our boarders (riders and horses) care a lot more about the arenas, rings and stalls than the clubroom, viewing room etc. It’s probably more my thing. But I’m glad finally

### Saddle Valley “Stuff” for Sale

- ◆ Saddle Valley Hats  
(Our tag line “To ride or not to ride – there is no question!” on the back and SVF Logo on the front) .....\$10
  - ◆ Saddle Valley Sweatshirts  
(Logo on front/adult sizes)..... \$30
- Coming soon:**
- ◆ SVF tees and tanks for adults
  - ◆ “Saddle Valley Barn Rat” tees for kids

to say that the renovations are complete and live up to our expectations. It’s great to see the clubroom being used for hanging out, lunch or just to get out of the cold (drop in for some coffee or treats). And we’ve seen a husband or two watching the end of a football game or Nascar race in the viewing room. It’s meant for viewing the arena – but viewing TV seems to be appreciated as well. We continue to focus on the farm infrastructure – the fencing, pastures, water systems, etc. -- a never-ending challenge.

### Umm! Umm! Good!

SVF horses can’t wait to get back to the barn for their grain these days. We’ve up-graded our feed program to Pennfield Signature 10 (10% Protein, 10% fat, and 10% fiber) – which is specially formulated for horses in our region (where the soil lacks selenium and vitamin E). This feed is also designed to minimize colic and ulcers. Even though it ‘s good for them - the horses are loving it!

### Horse Sense...

- Your horse can only be as brave as you are.
- Don't get mad, get even - better.
- Allow the horse time to digest your thoughts.
- Don't look where he is going, that's his job.
- Don't look at your horse...his ears won't fall off.
- Everything starts in the horse's mind, goes through his body, down his legs to his feet.
- Exaggerate to teach, refine as you go along.
- The four most handicapping words in the English language: can't, won't, don't, yeah-but.
- Imagination is more valuable than knowledge.
- Whether you think you can or think you cannot, you are probably right.

## Saddle Valley Farm Features Horseback Riding for Baby Boomers

An increasing number of baby boomers are recapturing their youth through horseback riding. Many choose our Western program. Maybe it's all the early Westerns we watched on early TV? From Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, and the Lone Ranger - to Death Valley days, Wagon Train, Gunsmoke, Bonanza and on and on – most of us had dreams of getting in the saddle.

Wearing boots and jeans, armed with determination, Boomers are discovering that controlling a 1000-pound horse is challenging, fun, and exercise all rolled up in one.

Boomers have been described as:

- Risk takers who like the idea of change
- Individualists
- They place priority on experiences over possessions
- They search for balance in life

Saddle Valley Farm is building a western riding program that satisfies all these goals. Charlie Transue, a western pleasure and halter horse trainer, open class show judge, and western riding specialist is teaching adult students to learn to ride, laugh and be cowboys and cowgirls.

His students are excited as they progress. In addition to working with his students on the physical challenges, Charlie focuses on psychological challenge of instilling confidence in their ability to master this challenging sport.

*We also offer English and Dressage instruction if that's more your style. So if you've always wanted to try riding, or want to get back in the saddle, just give us a call.*

### If Your Horse was a Star ★

Benson = Pierce Brosnan  
 Cisco = Johnny Depp Laddie = Tom Cruise  
 Maggie = Drew Barrymore  
 Irish = Carol O'connor as (Archie Bunker)  
 Secret = Hugh Hefner  
 Obe = Arnold Schwarzenegger  
 Image = Fred Astair  
 McVai = Sigorney Weaver (as Ripley)  
 Colt = Jack Nicholson  
 Gracie = Rosie O'Donnel  
 Dreamer = Nikki hilton Splash = Al Pacino  
 ♥ Promise=Brad Pitt ♥  
 ♥ Frankie=Jennifer Anniston

from barn chalkboard

## 2004 Saddle Valley Farm Horse Show Season

**May 15<sup>th</sup>**

**ESDCTA approved Dressage Schooling Show**

**May 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Penn Jersey Horse Show Assn. English Show**

**June 20<sup>h</sup>**

**Penn Jersey Horse Show Assn. Western Show**

**July 10<sup>th</sup>**

**ADS approved Pleasure Driving Show**

**August 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Penn Jersey Horse Show Assn. English Show**

**Participants and observers welcome. Come experience the beautiful vistas, rolling hills and superb facility of Saddle Valley Farm**

**Parelli Clinic April 28 to May 6<sup>th</sup> – Level 3 Course**

**given by Aimee Brimhall (Sunday off).  
(April 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> clinics postponed)**

### Welcome to the Barn:

Horse	Owner
Trouble	J.T.
Scotch	Kate
Amigo, Nelson & Mitchell	Victoria
Links	Emily
Rad, Rex, & Teddy	Holly
Splash	Tish
Ricoh	Julia
Oakey	Laurie
Buddy Lee	Alex
Rosie	Saddle Valley

*We look forward to making a great home for your horses and a home away from home for you -- Elaine & Alex*