The Pony Express Riders of Iowa, Inc. PO Box 1704 Des Moines, Iowa 50305

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Good Day My Friends!

I hope that everything is fine at your house and everyone is in good shape. The weather was great for Ride Weekend, and now we're getting the much needed rainfall that we were all hoping would hold off till after our Ride.

The Governors Ride into Camp was a success. We left on time and all the riders did a much better job of staying in line & keeping up. Thank you all.

The Governor presented us with a Proclamation, what a great time to receive such a great honor, just made the day!

The Victory Dance at Lake Robbins was great way to end the evening. Thanks to the Rebel Road Band for doing such a wonderful job, and to Lane & Monte for their support & help with our Pony Express song. Thanks go out to Lynn for again allowing us to hold our celebration there, as well as the great meals she provides. We are also very grateful to Lori Christiansen (saleable items folks) for making & donating the barn quilt. It raised \$550 to add to our total! What about that total??? \$255,783 and Carole says it's still going up. Grand total so far for the past 47 years: \$9,453,735. What a great job you have al done for Pony Express & Easter Seals Camp Sunnyside!

Thank You! **Stephen Bomer**

> **Remember that Annual Memberships were due** on Ride Day, so if you haven't renewed yours, please do so right away, otherwise this may be your last newsletter mailed out, the system will kick you off the label list if your membership isn't current.

| Mr. | |
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The Pony Express Riders of Iowa, Inc.

| I'd like to be a member of the Pony | Express Riders of Iowa. | |
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| Please enroll me as: | New Member Renewal | |
| Life Member (18 and over) \$30 - voting | County: | |
| Contributing Member | Name: | |
| \$10 - voting | Address: | |
| Family Member \$10 - 2 votes maximum | City/State/Zip: | |
| Active Member | Phone: | |
| \$5 - voting | E-Mail: | |
| Junior Member (17 & under) \$.50 - non-voting | Mail To: Pony Express Riders of Iowa PO Box 1704 Des Moines, Iowa 50305 | |

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SALEABLE ITEMS contact info: Circle C Signs 2446 State HWY 2 Clarinda, IA 51632 712-542-2174 or 1-800-359-4260 circlecfarms@iowatelecom.net To ORDER on Line http://www.circlecsigns.com/PEClothing.html

Calendar of Events

Shown below is dad, Chris Fleshner, (Grundy County Co-Chair), leading son, Cole on Saturday's Pony Express ride in Grundy Center. Please read below the photo, for a portion of an email I, Carole got from Chris after the ride. Chris we are so Thankful for wonderful young families like yours! We are fortunate you found Pony Express & Easter Seals for you & your family to support!



Thank you for letting Emma and Cole be such an active part of your organization. I know that Easter Seal benefits financially from what we do as Pony Express, but I also wanted to tell you that Holly and I really feel we benefit from the Pony Express as well. It is giving us a great teaching tool to teach our kids about helping others and community service. We really try to make sure that we not only teach the kids the 3R's in their school work, but also that they learn how to be good community members and citizens as well. It also is a great way that we get to spend family time together. Not only on Easter weekend, but during the year as well.



Isn't it great to see so many young people involved with Pony Express? In fact, Chelsey Lourenz (carrying the American flag) is 3rd generation member. Mackenzie Messick is carrying the Iowa Flag.

Annual Meeting: 1:00 May 4th @ Camp Sunnyside. Main Lodge. General membership encouraged to attend!

Voting for Election of Officers. This is your opportunity to chose your Region's representatives. Positions available: Secretary & Treasurer; NW-2 openings; NE-1; SE-3; SW-1. some of these positions are 1st terms expiring, and current Board member may or may not be running again. We have a few nominations made at Saddle Up Meetings, nominations can be made from the floor on May 4th.



Lexie Coleman. Lucas County Pony Express Junior Queen is pictured riding the 2014 Raffle Horse into Camp from John Deere. Lexie rode Frosty the entire weekend on SE Ride 6. Frosty is a 2005 AQHA Red Dun Gelding. Tickets & flyers will be available at the Annual May Meeting, so if you are not planning to attend, please have someone pick them up for you.

Lexie is just one of several talented young ladies that will represent the Pony Express Riders at the Iowa State Fair Cowgirl Queen Contest in August. Be sure to attend and cheer for all of our young ladies!

Marion/Jasper

Horse Show & Cowgirl Queen Contest April 27 @ Marion County Fairgrounds, Knoxville, New this year: payback classes & trophies See: www.ponyexpressridersofiowa.org Horse Show & Cowgirl Queen Contest May 10th @ Jasper County Fairgrounds arena in Hor Colfax, flyer available on NEWS Page @ www.ponyexpressridersofiowa.org

Lucas

Horse Show & Cowgirl Queen Contest September 13th **10 AM** Held @ the Russell Livestock Market Arena, flyer available on NEWS Page

Chickasaw

Dance & Auction June 7th 8– midnight (a) Fairgrounds in Nashua. BYOB & bring your lawn chairs. Band TBD

Van Buren

Horse Show & Queen contest July 26th @Van Buren county fairgrounds in Keosauqua Flyer available @

www.ponyexpressridersofiowa.org

Monroe

4th Annual Wagon Train Ride to Dan Larson Memorial Bull Ride June 5.6 & 7th Flyer (a) www.ponyexpressridersofiowa.org

A Note of Thanks from Easter Seals Iowa

Pony Express Riders of Iowa, I don't think I'll ever be able to thank you enough! My heart was full as I rode into Camp Sunnyside atop a wagon with the Dostal family on Ride Day. Surrounded by 300 horses & cheers of Camp Sunnyside friends, I was amazed once again at your support for people living with disabilities in our state. Because of your support we are able to provide hope and independence to the clients and families we serve. Thank you for your believing in the work and the mission! Congratulations on another amazing Ride Day! Cheers,

Sherri Nielsen, **President/CEO Easter Seals Iowa**

Hor

Horse Show & Cowgirl Queen Contest June 29th Entries open @ 9 AM, show begins @ 10 AM. Held at the beautiful Palisades Equestrian Center, 8414 46th Lane, Prole. Held Rain or shine, there is an indoor arena to use in case of wet conditions outdoors. Flyer available on the NEWS page (a)www.ponyexpressridersofiowa.org

Ride 1 coming from north & Ride 6A from SE, meeting up just outside of John Deere at the exact same time. What are the chances of that??? Probably wouldn't happen again even if we tried. Perfect timing!



Tama

Horse Show & Cowgirl Queen Contest June 1st At the Double D Rodeo Arena North of Toledo, flyer available @ www.ponvexpressridersofiowa.org

| rse-Mule Fun Show | July 13th | watch for details |
|--------------------|------------|-------------------|
| rse– Mule Fun Show | Sept. 21st | watch for details |

Central Iowa

Pump Gas For Tips April 25th 4 to 7 PM Hy–Vee Gas in Pleasant Hill Collections May 17th 8 AM- Noon??? HWY 163 & Hickory BLVD in Pleasant Hill. To volunteer to help call 515-202-0954

Ponv Golf Sept. 21 7 AM - Noon 4 Man Best Shot @ Terrace Hills in Altoona. Sign up form available on NEWS Page, www.ponyexpressridersofiowa.org or call 515-202-0954

Float Trip — Raccoon River Excursions July 19th 8 AM, leaving White Water University in Pleasant Hill Bus Ride: \$20 per person, Float trip fee: \$25 per person For reservations call Kim @ 515-202-0954 or Jarod @ 515-202-0955

Please Note the Float rip is not the Pony Express event, but the **Royalty Party Buses is donating the Bus Fee to Pony Express!**

Have you ever seen this happen in the past 47 years????

