



Summer/Fall 2008

*Kent Special
Riding Program*



State of the Kent Special Riding Program

Our Mission

Kent Special Riding Program is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing high quality therapeutic and recreational horseback riding instruction to physically, mentally, and emotionally challenged individuals in Kent and surrounding counties. KSRP strives to maximize the potential of all individuals involved in the program in a safe and stimulating environment.

Some facts about KSRP:

- In 2007, the Kent Special Riding Program served 276 students.
- Our actual expenses to provide this experience came to \$47,858.
- KSRP charges each student \$10.00 for a 6-week riding session. Not everyone can afford this fee, so for some, this fee is waived.
- The actual cost per rider to take part in a 6-week session is \$173.40.
- Income from student fees came to \$2,140. Only 4.5% of our expenses were covered by student fees.
- KSRP supports 13-15 horses per year, at a cost of about \$750 per horse.
- Other expenses include: Salaries for Instructors, Aides and Horse Feeders; insurance, taxes, equipment, continuing education, grounds and maintenance.
- The annual Ride-a-Thon is our major fundraiser, bringing in \$18,653 in 2007. Other income comes from grants and donations.

We have a small but very dedicated group of volunteers that work to run the Kent Special Riding Program. But we can't do it alone.

Some ways you can help:

Monetary: Help us continue to provide this experience to everyone. <i>Call Louise at 451-2147</i>	Donations: things you may have lying around the house. <i>Call Lynn at 891-8066</i>	Time: no money needed, just a few hours here and there. <i>See below for phone numbers</i>
Hoof trim for one horse: \$15	Office supplies: paper, labels, envelopes, stamps, etc.	Help out at our annual Ride-a-Thon on Oct. 4 (<i>call Gail at 897-7581</i>)
Dental work for one horse: \$150	Gift cards to office supply stores	Help maintain or replace fences (<i>call Jon at 304-6677</i>)
Sponsor 1 rider for a 6-week session: \$173.40	Gift cards to feed stores	Help create a display booth for publicity (<i>call Gail at 897-7581</i>)
Sponsor 1 rider for a year (3 sessions): \$520	Fence boards, fence posts, nails	Work with a class: horse leaders and sidewalkers are needed, especially weekday mornings & Saturdays (<i>call Connie at 891-8243</i>)
Sponsor a horse for a year: \$750 (choose from 12 horses, receive a picture and history of "your" horse)	Gas cards	Be a part of our "hay crew": help load bales into the hayloft (2-3 hours) (<i>call Amy at 891-9235</i>)
Sponsor a class of 6 riders for a session: \$1,040	Door prizes for the Ride-a-Thon	Assist with grounds upkeep & maintenance (<i>call Jon at 304-6677</i>)
		Help with mailings (2-3 hours) (<i>call Lynn at 891-8066</i>)

KSRP is licensed with the State of Michigan as a 501 (c) (3) charity. Your gift, therefore, is **fully tax deductible**.



Enclosed is my donation of: \$ _____ for _____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Phone number: _____

Please make check payable to KSRP.

Send donations to: Kent Special Riding Program, 723 Flat St. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503



Name _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address _____

Age of Rider 5 & under (birthdate __/__/__) 6 - 10 11 - 15 16 - 20 21 - 25
 (Circle one) 26 - 30 31 - 35 36 - 40 41 - 45 46 - 55 56 & over (birthdate __/__/__)

Age of Horse _____

How many years (including this one) have you participated in the Ride-a-Thon? _____

Name & type of group you came with today: *All members of group please use same name*

CHOOSE ONE 4-H Club _____
 Non 4-H Club _____
 Family _____
 Business _____

circle tee shirt size:
 kids sm med lg xl xxl

The Kent Special Riding Program is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing high quality therapeutic and recreational horseback riding instruction to physically, mentally and emotionally challenged individuals in Kent and surrounding counties. KSRP strives to maximize the potential of all individuals involved in the program in a safe and stimulating environment. The staff and students gratefully acknowledge your pledge to support this 4-H fund raising project. KSRP receives no tax dollars and is operated solely on donated funds.

DONATION SIGN-UP INSTRUCTIONS

(this is a straight pledge, not based on time or distance)

Please list each sponsor's name, mailing address (if they are to be invoiced) & contribution. Collect contributions immediately if at all possible, donations of less than \$25.00 must be collected by the entrant. Checks should be written payable to: KSRP. Donors wishing to qualify for state tax credits may do so by making checks payable to the Michigan 4-H Foundation/Kent Co. KSRP. If you are unable to attend the Ride-A-Thon, pledge sheets and donations may be mailed to: Louise Palczewski, 723 Flat Street, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. **Thank you!**

**The 2008 KSRP Ride-A-Thon
is sponsored by:**



**CARL A. JOHNSON POST 2
AMERICAN LEGION
GRAND RAPIDS, MI.**



King Milling Company
Established 1890
Lowell, MI 49331

2008 RIDE-A-THON PRIZES

- Entrants who bring in a minimum of \$35.00 in pledges the day of the event will receive lunch, a collector tee shirt and be eligible for dozens and dozens of door prizes!
- For *each* \$50.00 in pledges, the entrant will receive one ticket in the Grand Prize drawing ... First Prize is \$500.00!
- There will be 12 other prizes awarded in the Grand Prize Drawing!
- Trophies and 6 Place Rosettes will be awarded to the High Pledge entrants in 10 age categories.
- High Pledge Business, Family, 4-H Club, Non-4-H Club and Individual
- Oldest Horse, Oldest Rider and Youngest Rider
- "End of the Trail" (entrant who traveled the farthest to attend)
- "Trail Boss" (entrant who brought in the most new participants)
- Glass mug for a veteran participant bringing in a new participant
- \$250 - \$499 in pledges receives a thermal bag
- \$500 - \$999 in pledges receives a Ride-A-Thon Sweat shirt
- \$1000 and over pledge TBA
- Various years of participation receive special awards

30th ANNUAL KENT SPECIAL RIDING PROGRAM RIDE-A-THON/WALK-A-THON
IONIA STATE RECREATION AREA, OCTOBER 4, 2008

Welcome to Ride-A-Thon 2008! The Ride-A-Thon committee would like to thank you for your support of the Kent Special Riding Program. Because of you and others like you, hundreds of handicapped individuals can enjoy the sport that brings you to this event - horseback riding!

For our supporters without horses, we offer the "Pumpkin Walk". Hike the beautiful trails around Sessions Lake and find a numbered pumpkin along the way. Trade your pumpkin in for a door prize. Leashed dogs are welcome!

All Ride-A-Thon participants bringing in at least \$35.00 in pledges will receive their collector tee shirt designed by Lowell artist, Jill Moore. In addition, you'll enjoy a chili and hot dog cowboy lunch and be eligible to win one of dozens of door prizes!

For each \$50.00 in pledges, you will receive one ticket in the \$500.00 Grand Prize Drawing! There will be many other exciting prizes in the Grand Prize Drawing. The 6 High Pledge winners in 10 age divisions will win trophies and rosette ribbons. Special prizes will be awarded to: High Pledge Family, Business, 4-H Club, Non-4H Club and Individual; Oldest rider, Youngest rider, Oldest horse, Trail Boss (person who brought the most new participants), End of the Trail (person who came the farthest) and 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 & 30 years of participation. We have our popular glass mugs for returning Ride-A-Thoners who bring a new participant with them. Those with pledges of \$250 - \$499, \$500 - \$999, and for \$1000 and over will receive special prizes.

Please collect any individual pledges less than \$35. We appreciate your willingness to pay your park entrance fee of \$6 (if you don't have your annual State Park sticker), that is a big help in keeping our expenses down. Thank you! Camping is available at the Horseman's Campground (next to the Ride-A-Thon staging area) for \$17 per night. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-447-2757.

If you cannot be with us on the 4th, you can still be a Ride-A-Thoner! Just mail your pledge sheet and pledges to us and we'll get your tee shirt sent out to you! Pledge sheets and pledges can be mailed to:

Louise Palczewski 723 Flat Street NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

For additional information, please call 616-897-7581 or visit our website: ksrp.org.

We are looking forward to another wonderful day of riding, hiking and friendship. Your support of the Kent Special Riding Program is sincerely appreciated!
See you October 4th!

Thank you to our event sponsors: King Milling Company of Lowell, Comerica Bank, Carl A. Johnson Post 2 American Legion, Valley City Plating and Hoeksema Tool Service.

Kent County 4-H Council
775 Ball NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Non-Profit Org.
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Grand Rapids, MI
Permit #279

Volunteers!

Thank you to the many new volunteers who worked with KSRP this summer. Many of you found out about us through the Buyers' Guide. Volunteers participate as horse leaders or side walkers. Time commitment is 2-4 hours, once a week for 6 weeks. The next Volunteer Training session will be **Sept. 8** at 7:00 pm at the barn. If you are interested in helping out, please call Connie at 891-8243 or email convb@iserv.net.

2008 KSRP Schedule:

Volunteer training: September 8
Fall Session: September 15 – November 1
30th Annual Ride-A-Thon: October 4



Phone Numbers:

Program Director:

Lynn Schumacher (616) 891-8066
ksrp@voyager.net

Volunteer Coordinator:

Connie Van Belkum (616) 891-8243
convb@iserv.net

Barn Phone: (616) 891-0057

www.ksrp.org