

Special Show Edition

On September 25, 2010, In-Stride with Therapeutic Riding, Inc. hosted a day of fun with horses. The day encompassed fun show classes, demonstrations and handicapped riding classes.



Danny and Jack



Danny and Sara

The day began in a frantic rush. Packing the van with all the items needed to make the day special. Hot dogs, check, buns, check, soda, check, chips, check, water, check, carrots, check, apples, check, ribbons, check, etc., etc. As I was arriving at the show grounds a pleasant sight caught my eye. Horse trailers bear horses not owned by In-Stride. The sun was shining it was warm and I had a feeling today was going to be a good day.

After arriving and beginning to unpack the van, I noticed the building which we set the snack bar up in was locked. Let the stress begin. Luckily one of the park workers drove by and was able to pry the door open with a pry bar. Over that hurdle, yeah! Set up the registration table. Start registering riders, now where are those volunteers? Oh, here comes Christine Madoni, gotta get her table out.

Erin was one of the first volunteers to arrive and she got a crash course in registering riders.



Hope and Jack

Then Deborah brought the first horse down from the barn. And Drue followed shortly. It was time to begin the classes. First up, Bribe your horse. Volunteer Erin used program horse, Sara, to try her hand at this class. They came through with flying colors and took first place. I guess Sara really loves carrots.



Vaughn and Jack

And then onto the riding classes, everyone was having fun, getting ribbons and enjoying their horses. Christine Madoni gave her first presentation and the crowd was mesmerized by her skill and the beauty of that big black horse of hers. More riding classes and a therapy class. Next up was Rose and Tina. They did a beautiful duet of English and western riding. The day was moving along quickly. First was Vaughn, one of our little guys. Vaughn did a great job and earned his ribbon. Another demonstration by Christine and again the crowd was amazed. Next up, Danny on Sara, Danny on Jack (you are not seeing double, we have two Dannys) and Hope on Jack. Everyone did

such a wonderful job. Sprinkle in a few more riding classes, the apple race and Australian pursuit were quite enjoyable to watch. And on to our independent therapeutic riders. Jon riding Cianna, Sabrina on Sara, Shannon on Jack, Brigid on Cianna, Kimmy on Sara, Kristy on Cianna, Logan on Sara, Emily on Cianna, Ella on Sara, and Lara on Cianna. The first class was an equitation class. Everyone did a great job at the walk/trot. Some more riding classes down and back and then it was barrel time. Again, came our riders Jon riding Cianna, Sabrina on Sara, Kimmy on Cianna, Kristy on Sara, Logan on Sara, Emily on Cianna, Ella on Sara, and Lara on Cianna and boy did we have fun.



Danny, Sara and a beautiful ribbon

And I must say, I think we will all remember the "WooHoo" that Sabrina let out after a successful barrel run. One last demo by Christine, that was again astounding. And we wound up the day by showing off our students' horsemanship skills.

It was a long day and we were all tired but it was a great success and



a lot of fun. I hope that we have as much success at our next show in the spring. Thanks to Farnam and Banixx for some great prizes.



Thanks to all those who made the day wonderful – volunteers, riders, students, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles special guests and friends.