

MINI BITS
Newsletter November 2005
The Hearts & Hooves - Sacramento

Welcome to the second issue of Hearts & Hooves Mini Bits. You are receiving this monthly newsletter because you are a volunteer, sponsor, client or special friend of the miniature horse therapy service we provide.

1. The Sacramento Bee article in the 4 Nov Metro Section resulted in dozens of phone calls. We conducted 3 training classes (levels I & II) plus 4 OJT visits (level III) and now have 8 more fully trained volunteers and several more that are partially trained.
2. We have a new VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR named Bonnie Thomas 916-989-8155 mbthomas@earthlink.net. She will be enrolling new volunteers and scheduling signups for events listed on the calendar. Bonnie will be starting 1 Dec, so please be patient with any glitches during the transition from me to her. If you feel the new process isn't working well, please let me or Bonnie know so we can adjust procedures.
3. Because of our new volunteers' availability, we were able to increase our Nov. visits:
 - Atrium Senior Apts in Carmichael (training)
 - Walton Special Center in Stockton
 - Valley Oaks Senior Apts in Auburn (training)
 - ARC in Roseville (training)
 - CH Elem Special Ed in Citrus Heights (training)
4. On Sat 19 Nov we participated in the Roseville Holiday parade. The Dry Creek 4H kids handled the horses and some of our new volunteers passed out flyers. We were very visible in our position at the end of the parade, just in front of Santa.
5. H&H also visited the Carmichael Kiwanis with one mini on 23 Nov. We are working to establish our presence in local communities by facilitating the matching of sponsors (service clubs or businesses) and clients (schools and care facilities).
6. Volunteers erected a metal carport 18x20 feet as a temporary horse shelter this winter, Rubber stall mats have been ordered for delivery the first week of December to minimize mud. The shelter can also be used to groom the horses for visits or conduct training as we did in today's rain showers. This is an interim solution until a real barn can be built next spring.
7. A new volunteer, Adam Tinney, has agreed to be our official photographer. He'll be attending some of our events and taking pictures, so wear your best smile.