



# SPRUCE CREEK TRAIL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

April/May 2009



## WILLIE LEES UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT (and it's great!)

Welcome to Willie Lee's Wild Horse Café, about a mile on the right as you turn out of Spruce Creek and head toward town. Always a favorite with the Spruce Creek community, Willie Lee's shelves have been a bit bare in recent months and yet Spruce Creek residents loyally continued to support the store. Well...GOOD NEWS! The shelves are stocked and there is a brisk new energy as manager, Jerry Price, rearranges and refurbishes. Neighbor Vicky Slaven, well known in these parts for her home cooking, is ready at 6:30am, Monday through Friday, to serve a hot breakfast (7am on Saturdays). She also prepares a daily "Blue Plate Special" which has proven wildly popular (no pun intended!) Monday: Cabbage w/Polish Sausage, Potato and Cornbread; Tuesday: Pork Tenderloin with Beans, Greens and Cornbread; Wednesday: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Veg and Cornbread; Thursday: Chili & Grilled Cheese or Chili Dog; Friday: Spaghetti w/Garlic Bread and Saturday: Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Veg and Cornbread.

Vicky will also have a to-go lunch ready, if you call in an order. She understands that many local workman need to get in and get out quickly at lunchtime so you can expect speedy service.

Jerry also hopes to be offering Hunt Brothers pizza in the near future, and will have a good selection of ice cream as the weather warms up.

The cooler is stocked with a variety of beer, including specialty brands such as Guinness, Sam Adams, Corona and Foster's Lager.

He will have supplies for campers and fishermen as well as some basic plumbing supplies, always handy for cabin owners in an emergency. He also sells firewood and this is where you come to pick up the local paper.

You'll enjoy the sitting area with it's inviting checkerboard and vacationing riders will be delighted to come in and use the new **WI-FI** capability.

## GREAT BREAKFAST PLACE

For those on the road, stop at Coffee Time Café in Grimsley, south of Jamestown on Hwy 127, for a fabulous breakfast. The menu includes French Toast, Belgian Waffles, Breakfast Burrito and all the usual choices you'd expect to find on a breakfast menu. Open on weekends from 5am-12:30pm. The food is excellent, plentiful and reasonably priced.

## FROM THE TREASURER

So far, we've received 94 new or renewed memberships which has yielded a grand total of \$4,910.

Several people who enjoy the use of the Spruce Creek trails but are unable to participate in our trail work days for one reason or another generously make a donation instead. We are extremely grateful for their support and can use those funds to hire someone to do some of the heavier work. As more people buy lots and move here, either full or part time, the trails are getting more use and will require more maintenance to keep them safe.

If you were paid in 2008 but have not renewed for 2009, a reminder that it's not too late! *Roy Sillman*

## FIRST POTLUCK OF THE SEASON

Potlucks are held monthly on the last Saturday of the month, April through October, at the pavilion at **6:30 CENTRAL** time! Everyone is welcome. You will notice a receptacle where Best Friends Pet Sanctuary collects aluminum cans for rebate to help defray expenses...please help out by bringing along your saved your cans when you come for the potluck.

## WELCOME, NEW NEIGHBORS

Welcome to new neighbors, Brenda and Joe Goett, who bought Brenda and Hugh Lawson's house at 634 Spruce Creek Drive. They will be commuting from Illinois as part timers for a few years, before making the move permanent. As frequently happens, we gained new neighbors without losing old ones...the Lawsons are right around the corner now, at 117 Saddle Drive.

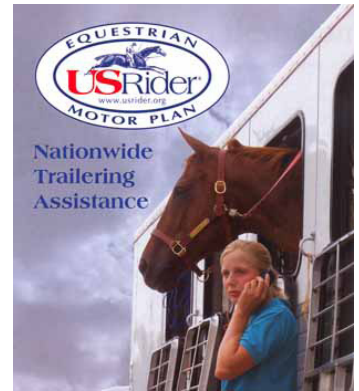
## REALTY ONE GROUP NAMED SALES AGENT FOR ROCKHOUSE RANCH

Hal Bibee Sr. and Ed Drummond, developers of the exclusive Rockhouse Ranch gated community just across the road from Spruce Creek, have recently appointed Realty One Group as their agent, with local realtor, Leslie Helm, handling marketing and sales. Several beautiful new homes and barns are presently under construction and only 15 lots remain.



## ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE PLAN FOR RIDERS

With so much trailering during the upcoming months, you might want to consider a roadside assistance plan that specifically accommodates people hauling horses. US Rider includes 100 miles of free towing for your tow vehicle and/or horse trailer, emergency vet, stabling and farrier referrals as well as a roadside repair benefit of up to \$200 per incident when it's safer not to tow. They can assist with battery or alternator problems, flat tire assistance, deliver fuel, oil and water, will dispatch a locksmith and arrange for taxi service as the result of an accident or breakdown. It is the only motor plan providing service for dual-wheeled vehicles. The cost is \$119 annually plus a one-time new member activation fee of \$29. For more information, you can call 1-800-844-1409 or look online at [www.usrider.org](http://www.usrider.org)



## NATIONWIDE OVERNIGHT STABLING DIRECTORY

The "Original" National Overnight Stabling Directory & Equestrian Vacation Guide plus Information Service is everything needed in planning your next trip, move, trail ride or vacation with your horses. The Directory has been published yearly since 1982 by Equine Travelers of America, Inc. and horsemen from the U.S. to Canada swear by it. The guide is broken down by state and maps are provided to help locate overnight stables. Travel tips are also provided. To order, the web address is <http://www.overnightstabling.com/> or call (620)442-8131. For those making a one-time trip and just needing 1 or 2 stops for that trip, and who don't wish to purchase the directory, the Information Service is the way to go. Information can be provided by phone, fax or email. Please allow 2 business days for a response. If you need faster service, call (620) 442-8131.

## READ READER REVIEWS OF HORSE CAMPGROUNDS

If you or someone you know will be horse camping, you can read campers' reviews of various facilities, broken down by state, at <http://www.horsetraildirectory.com> If you are planning to make a recommendation to visitors here, you can read reviews of local horse camps. This site provides some very informative reading.



## SUSCRIBE FREE

Read the latest FREE issue of [Hitch Up! e-Magazine](#), packed with safety news and how-to tips, including:

- **Trailer Clinic with John Lyons:** Watch an exclusive how-to video with John Lyons as he teaches you the secrets of trouble-free trailer loading.
- **Buying a Used-Trailer:** Read valuable tips that will help you find a great trailer at half the price.
- **PLUS:** Check out exclusive discounts you can take advantage of and a host of articles on equine trailer safety.

## CHATTANOOGA SADDLERY RE-OPENS

Big Horn Saddlery, based in Chattanooga, closed its doors in November 2008 but its assets were acquired in December by American Saddlery. Half of the 80 employees are back to work and 40 more will be soon. The same product lines will be offered and all warranties will be honored.

## WORTH REPEATING..

This is a repeat from the April/May 2008 newsletter but at this time of year, it's timely. Put a small "pet tag" on your horse's halter so if you're trailering and you have a loose or lost horse, his contact information is available. Go to <http://www.terrificpet.com> and order the large tag for \$4.95. It comes in black so it will be unobtrusive. Spend an extra dollar and have it engraved DOUBLE SIDED. Put your horse's name as well as your name, address, home and cell numbers on the front and, on the back side, a description of your tow vehicle/trailer so people can locate you quickly once they have your horse in hand.



## LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR....

After a ice storm crippled Jamestown last Thursday night, March 12th, power was out in Spruce Creek most of Friday. Road crews worked throughout the night, chainsawing downed trees that were blocking roads, as did linemen from Twin Lakes Telephone and Volunteer Electric. Thanks to Joyce Pickard, who put a small ad in the Fentress Courier on behalf of Spruce Creek residents, expressing gratitude to all of these workers.

[www.sprucecreektrails.com](http://www.sprucecreektrails.com)

## Trailer Checklist:

### TIRES AND WHEELS

Are tires in good condition? Look for bulges, slices, bare spots, worn tread.

Are tires the right size for the load?

Rotate the tires (including balancing and properly inflating them).

Clean and repack wheel bearings and replace seals.

Are the wheel lugs tight? Are they all there?

### FLOOR AND BODY

Check for floor for soft spots, rotting, splintering. This includes the ramp if you have one.

Replace damaged floor boards and treat floor with a preservative.

If you are using mats, do they fit snugly? Are they worn and need replacing?

Check metal for rust.

Check fiberglass for damage.

Check the registration to be sure it's up-to-date. Make sure the license plate is positioned so there are no sharp edges exposed.

Check and oil all hinges, dividers, doors, locks, and windows.

Check all gaskets and molding to ensure good fit of windows.

### BRAKES AND HITCH

Clean and oil the jack stand.

Grease the ball and the coupler.

Inspect and service the brake drums and wheels.

Check fluid levels and lines to hydraulic brakes.

Do a loaded and unloaded drive test to check for even stopping.

Inspect emergency trailer brake battery.

Check levelness of hitched trailer.

### WIRING AND SUSPENSION

Do all the lights work?

Is the wiring intact, clean and secured?

Grease the springs, shackles if appropriate.

Check shock absorbers and bushings.

Tighten up the axle bolts.

### SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Is your first aid kit complete?

Is your truck and trailer safety kit complete?

Do you have extra halters and lead ropes?

### 'TIS THE SEASON



### CELL PHONE SAFETY LOCATOR

ALL cell phones have this feature; it's called "Location." The cell phone 'locator' can be either set on 'E911' in which case you must dial out to be located or you can set it so it's on all the time. Look under the 'Settings' or 'System' tool and select 'Location On' instead of 'E911 Only!' Once you turn this on, THEN your phone is traceable at all times and you can be located by emergency services through the police if you fail to respond.



## CHECK IT OUT

There is a free horsetraining library at <http://www.horse.com/horsemanship-training-library.aspx>

Also, here's a website that allows you to listen to Rick Lamb's two-hour weekly radio program dealing with horse subjects <http://www.thehorseshow.com>

## CABIN RENTALS

**KICKING BACK CABIN.** Sleeps 6-10, fully-equipped kitchen, washer/dryer, fireplace, Jacuzzi. Very comfortably furnished. See website for pix, availability and rates. <http://www.kickingbackcabin.com>

## CLASSIFIEDS

**PET ADOPTION,** Donna Drochak is a volunteer for Best Friends Sanctuary. If you need a barn cat or a new dog, call her at 752-8388.

**FIREWOOD,** Connie Ross, 752-8920.

**COMPUTER DESK,** fits into corner, 5' long on each side. Cherry wood, grey formica top. Two file drawers on one side, cabinet on the other side, computer shelf on top. \$500 Can be seen at Staples online for \$2,000+, Lois Schwartz, 879-6613.

**RIDING MOWER,** John Deere, articulated \$200, Lois Schwartz, 879-6613..

**GAS LAWN MOWER,** \$75, Lois Schwartz, 879-6613.

**DISHWASHER,** Frigidaire, seldom used \$100, Lois Schwartz, 879-6613.

**MOVING BOXES,** U-Haul professional quality, assorted sizes, price depends on size but cheap, Lois Schwartz, 879-6613.

**CHEST FREEZER,** small, \$100, Lois Schwartz, 879-6613.

## SERVICES

**CUSTOM SEWING;** Embroidery, slipcovers, curtains and window treatments, cushions, trailer accessories. Call Joan; (931)-752-7643.

**EMERGENCY HORSESHOEING;** 15 years experience. Specializing in gaited horses. Call Rita Rosshirt, (931) 879-6835.

**SPRUCE CREEK NOTARY PUBLIC;** Leslie Helm, 752-8102.

**SPRUCE CREEK NOTARY PUBLIC;** Connie Ross, 752-8920.

**BUSH HOGGING, POSTHOLE DIGGING AND LIGHT TRACTOR WORK;** Tom Jancek (931) 879-8660 Home or (931) 704-0500 Cell.

## OFFICERS

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## PRODUCT REVIEW

From Troxel, a trusted name in equestrian helmets, comes this Western hat helmet. The premium wool felt cowboy hat with matching hatband is fitted over an ultra-low-profile ASTM/SEI certified helmet to integrate traditional



**TROXEL**

Western style with safety. Available from Smith Brothers catalog, the price is \$99.95. Online at

<http://www.smithbrothers.com> or call

**REMEMBER....** If you climb in the saddle, be ready for the ride.