www.hoofedheroes.org

<sup>1st</sup> Annual Raise the Roof Benefit Rodeo October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> 2009 – 7pm Belle Saddle Club Grounds Belle, Missouri

While running up and down the rodeo road, every once in a while, it is best to stop and appreciate the little things that we each have in our lives. Today, please take a moment to learn a bit about *Hoofed Heroes* and hear bit of their story.

Hoofed Heroes is a NARHA (North American Riding for the Handicapped Association) center. Their goal is to provide physically, mentally and emotionally challenged individuals with an opportunity for emotional and physical growth through horsemanship. Riders are accepted into the program based on an initial evaluation following the NARHA guidelines. From that initial evaluation, program goals are set then reevaluated after three months. The riding program is includes English and Western riding and is taught to accomplish specific therapeutic goals. Educational goals such as reading, mathematics and sequencing are also taught thru horsemanship.

Hoofed Heroes is committed to improving the lives of their participants through the use of horses. Riders who have been diagnosed with Spina Bifida, Attention Deficit Disorder, Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis have all been witness to the wonderful benefits of therapeutic horsemanship. It is not unusual for a child who has never walked before to discover that, through the strength and balance developed on a horse, he or she can now begin to walk. Therapy is a fun instead of painful and learning becomes a game rather than a chore. The accomplishments are open-ended for these riders.

But, *Hoofed Heroes* needs your help. They are currently operating with an outdoor arena that limits when riders can come for their therapy. A rainy or cold day often ruins the outing that participants have looked forward too. A new barn is on their wish list, and we aim to get one built. They have started a "*Raise the Roof*" barn building fund and have already started to see generous donations coming in from the community.

The **Belle Saddle Club** in conjunction with **Outlaw Rodeo Productions** has teamed up to put on a 2-Day Benefit Rodeo October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. We are seeking sponsors for this event. We still have quite a few sponsorship levels available that we need to fill. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor for this event or Even if you have something to donate (perhaps you have some saddles, or extra bales of hay, or horse care products), please let me know. Any and all items are accepted and greatly appreciated.

Our goal is to raise at least \$20,000. for the "Raise the Roof" Fund. Please help this wonderful organization reach their goal, so they may help others.

Thank you for your attention to this wonderful cause.

Kathleen M. Cain-Johnson Rodeo Marketing Director 314-277-4260

See more Horse Event information at www.mohorseshows.com

Thank you to a few of our "Raise The Roof" friends: