



RE: OREA's Third Annual "Ride for the Troops"

Hi Everyone!

It turned out to be a beautiful Saturday for our ride for the troops benefit! AND despite the severe wind and storm the night before, and competing with open houses and graduations- the participants generous donations still raised \$375 for our soldiers!! Prizes were given out to those lucky riders for finding the blue horse shoe, white horse shoe, dragonfly and butterfly. (However the red horse shoe was able to go undetected and is still on the lam)! Upon returning, riders were treated to hot dogs, chips, water and apple. Many also sat down for a time of reflection and wrote a letter to a soldier on the back of the flyers that will be sent overseas in care packages by Desert Angel (Louise Downs). As before, we honored the memory of fallen Michigan soldiers by having riders wear their names out on the ride.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the OREA Board members that gave of their time, efforts and support.: Pastor Bob Moran, Sue Peters, Steve Keim, & Val Pfeiffer. Also to my lovely 12 yr. old daughter Briana, who at the ripe old age of 8 instilled in me the desire to "reach out to help others" by starting a fund raiser for a worthy group since it was her idea in the first place.

I would like to acknowledge the dedication of one participant. Nick and Terri Onica have always supported and participated in Orea events. But Nick Onica came to ride with healing broken ribs and other injuries sustained from an equine mishap,- showing true tenacity and grit in honoring our military. God Bless You!

And last but not least, Thanks to Louise Downs (Desert Angel) for her displays, enthusiasm, knowledge and dedication to our troops. You truly are a blessing!

Donations for food items by:

Kroger's of Lapeer & Tim Horton's of Lapeer

Gift donations supplied by:

TSC of Lapeer & Ortonville & Brown's Do-It center in Goodrich

Copies of flyer's donated by:

Office Depot of Lapeer

Due to the month of June becoming more overloaded with events and to avoid the possible heat and bugs, we have decided starting next year (2011) to move this event (Ride for the Troops benefit) to the fall. If any of you would like to have a say as to whether we hold this in October or November (before hunting season) please throw us an e-mail and let us know your thoughts. We always appreciate your input. "The more, the merrier"

Have a great summer and we'll see you at our Judged Trail Ride on Sept 18th!

~ Tamra

Orea Board Member and Ride for the Troops Organizer