

Happy Birthday to SA Te Jat!



Marty Powers on SA Te Jat

Today (July 22, 2009) is Te's 11th birthday, and what a fabulous time we've had over the last six years! I bought Te from Daunna Sellers as a just started five year old and began competing with him in distance riding the following year. We currently have over 2,600 combined miles in competitive trail, limited distance, and endurance. This year is going very well. I'll focus on just a few of his ride.

Over Memorial Day weekend we competed at AHDRA I, a ride practically in my backyard in northern Illinois, and rode two days of competitive trail. There were over a dozen of the top competitive horses in UMECRA (Upper Midwest Endurance and Competitive Rides Association) competing. Te was first lightweight and high point both days, with a higher vet score on the second day.

Two weeks later, we went to the White River Summer Ride in Michigan and did our first 50-mile ride of the season. He came in 10th out of 25 horses in very strong competition (Canada had sent several riders from their National Endurance Team).

Then over the 4th of July weekend we went to the Endless Valley Ride in Wisconsin. What a remarkable weekend we had! Te came in first place and earned Best Conditioned in the 55-mile ride on Friday and then came back on Sunday and tied for 1st lightweight in competitive trail. The vets were very impressed and said he looked better at the end of the ride on Sunday than he did at the beginning! This picture of Te was taken by photographer Genie Stewart-Spears at the Endless Valley ride.

This weekend we're headed to the Wildcat Ride in Wisconsin for another 50-mile ride – wish us luck.



Happy birthday to my amazing partner, SA Te Jat!!!