

Lee's Valley Hill Farm a full-service facility

Tommy Lee says he has loved horses all his life. As proof, he tells the family story that when he was three years old he wandered away to his grandmother's nearby farm and was found sitting on a fence watching the horses and mules. Always a passion, horses now are his chosen profession.

Lee's specialty is breeding, training and selling Saddlebreds for his Valley Hill Farm and for his investors. Business is good.

Saddlebreds always his favorites, Tommy officially started his training career as a teenager at M.C. Trotter's Meadowlane Farm in Eastover, SC, then went on to Bill Becker at Spring Valley Farm. He also worked with Art Simmons, Lee Shipman, Don Stafford, David Mountjoy, Nelson Green and Donnie Brookshire. In 1989 he and his wife, Barbara, bought their Valley Hill Farm in Keysville, GA, 30 miles south of Augusta.

The 105 acres are home to the Lees, their three daughters and to a full service training and breeding facility with pastures, paddocks, training and stallion barns, indoor arena and mare care facilities. Foals born there don't have to leave the farm until they're ready for the show ring.

Tommy trains his youngsters with the belief that all horses, like people, are different. He says his job as a trainer is to figure out what each animal is capable of doing, not push them beyond their ability.

Barbara Lee operates her own hunter-jumper stable at Valley Hill and is an avid fox hunter, riding Saddlebreds and Saddlebred/Percheron crosses. She bred her favorite mount, Cane County, pictured to the right, who she describes as "awesome."

The Lees' mares – and those owned by their customers – produce 40

to 50 foals a year. There are more than 100 head on the farm.

Valley Hill is standing three stallions for 2003.

*The farm's senior stallion is Man of York (CH Yorktown x Miss Calculation by CH Valley View Supreme), one of the younger sons of Yorktown standing to the public. A five-gaited champion, he has looks, talent and a good mind. Among his winning get are Evening In New York, Hey Macarena, Jimmy Church and Miss Liberty York, successful in 2002 at Rock Creek.

*VHF York's Magic Man (Man of York x Rose of Raven), is a young stallion who has been shown in fine harness and will debut in 5-gaited classes in 2003. His first foals are due this year.

*It's Hammertime (The Manipulator x Love Trilogy by Status Symbol) is owned by Tony Diamond of Augusta, GA. Valley Hill has several exciting youngsters by this stallion, including a black, yearling colt, a look-a-like of his sire. It's Hammertime gives his colts a long neck, small narrow head, sharp hooked year, and long pasterns – all adding up to classic elegance with powerful forward motion.

For information contact Tom & Barbara Lee, Valley Hill Farm, 3651 Noah Station Road, Keysville, GA 30816. Barn: (706) 547-2884. Home: (706) 547-7612. E-mail: bb19196@bellsouth.net



Man of York

***Three stallions
offered in 2003;
many top show
prospects for sale.***



Cane County (Hurricane Country x Jean's Spring Romance) fox hunts with Barbara Lee. A staff horse ridden up front with the hounds, he must jump & cross anything at speed, then be still and quiet.