



Equine-Assisted Therapy News

From The Director's Desk... EAT 2012



It's certainly starting out to be an exciting year. We have happily welcomed new sponsors, volunteers, participants, instructors, not to mention the always-nearing-completion indoor arena at our Wildwood facility. Construction was able to continue through the winter due to the very mild weather we had and so many came out to help defray our costs by offering free labor, services and talents. Every day was a whirlwind of activity!

Meanwhile, Scott Pitzer started working with our equine herd, preparing them for our 2012 season. He talked to them, walked with them, introduced them to new (scary) things. He caught them, groomed them and spent countless hours communicating with them on their level. Then, he started showing our volunteers how to do the same. Long story short, we have had an exceptional start to our new season thanks to all this work and we thank you one and all!

Our Spring volunteer training brought in so many wonderful volunteers who are dedicated to assuring safe, quality lessons for our 100/wk participants.

We have 3 Instructors in Training (IIT's) who are currently going through the certification process with PATH Intl - Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship - out of Denver, Colorado. Once they have been certified, EAT will be able to offer more class options.

Opening day arrived and the weather was beautiful. We were so happy to see our previous participants return and welcomed many, many new participants and their families. We also had added some new horses to our family, to the delight of participants and volunteers alike. Yoda, Obi Wan, Monroe and Goose proved to be quite happy with their new 'job' as therapy horses.

Please come and see all we've accomplished at our newest location at 3369 Hwy 109 in Wildwood. None of this could've been done without your support and faithfulness.

♥ Ginni

A special EAT Thanks! to our building contractors who, each in their own way, were charitable in getting this huge project completed by donating a generous portion of their time and talent to the completion of our new Wildwood building:

Hallmark Stone
Bill Mauller Heating and Cooling
Dan Schultz Electric



EAT IS GOING GREEN!!!! This is our last newsletter to be sent out via the postal system. If you would like to continue receiving our newsletters please send your e-mail address to: info@equine-assistedtherapy.org and they will come right to your desk every other month! **Thanks everyone!**



Equine-Assisted Therapy News

We Love Our Volunteers!!!

Boy Scout Troop 803

Boy Scout Troop 803 came to EAT and did a super job! They worked tirelessly for 5 hours weeding, hauling sticks and dead trees, chopping them up into mulch then mulching the area they weeded. It looks beautiful.

Quinn Hume, Haran Kumar, Alex Luckerman, Evan Pautz
Isaac Rodriguez, Jake Scissors.

Chaperoned by: Steven Pautz, Kristin Radina, Dale Schwartz



Blades Elementary Character Club

Blades Elementary Character Club collected supplies for us and filled goodie bags for our volunteer appreciation week. The kids below came out with a parent and their teacher, Colleen Fitzhenry.

Jayda & Emre Aka, Madijah Parker, Conner Guentz

Monsanto

Richie Little, Mia & Jack Tolerico, Drew & Abby Ganley
Todd Staley, Lisa Morrison, Katie Harris, Jennifer Eckerle, David Kueck, Jessica Cuba

Eat First Impressions Robert Ban Giesen



My initial volunteering experience as a side walker for E.A.T. was extremely rewarding. I am a Speech-Language Pathologist who works with individuals with delays and disabilities. I am always searching for ways to connect with these individuals and to assist them with their communication needs.

Watching the joy in the faces of the riders and seeing their confidence grow as they control the horses under the watchful eyes of the E.A.T. team is something to behold. In all of my years as a teacher and clinician, it was an experience I will cherish and never forget. The E.A.T. team of instructors, leaders and side walkers handle these therapy sessions with grace, confidence and kindness that can benefit any individual with delays or disabilities, and I hope to be a part of that team for as long as I can.

*Robert Van Giesen, B.F.A.
SLP Graduate Clinician
ESL Instructional Specialist*

Spatacular - Ginger Bay Salon and Spa

This year Ginger Bay's annual Spatacular will benefit the Equine-Assisted Therapy program. This is an annual event that has been held for the last 10 years. Each year, Ginger Bay selects a charity (this year, EAT), they then solicit silent auction items from guests, friends, family and hold a private event on a Saturday evening when the salon is closed. Guests will purchase tickets to the event which includes a service of their choice (from our specified list) and complimentary cocktails and food usually donated by local restaurants. Ginger Bay will donate 100% of the profits raised with this event to Equine-Assisted Therapy.



Watch for more information about this great event to be held in July!

Whitfield School Volunteers

Thanks to the students of Whitfield School who came to our Town and Country facility to help with some Spring cleaning:

Jason Aubert, Alex Baumann, Conrad Chadwick, Nick Cuevas, Sami Friedman, Linzie Hadzima, Aimee Hibler, Alexis Hubbard, Courtney Langheim, Claudia Oertli, Nate Schmidt

Chaperoned by Aynie Linneman, Gavin Kark, Matt Politte and Nicole Randall

Emily and Sophia Chrysler, Claire and Tim Knox,
Marion & Eleanor Margulis, Sue and Meg Maune, Mary &
Declan McDonald, Kim Smith,
Kathleen & Eric Engel,
Catie & Lisa Stephenson



Equine-Assisted Therapy News



Thank You

- ♥ Bill Schmidt - Farrier
- ♥ David Hunt—St Louis Equine Veterinary Services
- ♥ Homestead Veterinary Hospital
- ♥ EAT Barn Buddies
- ♥ Cortrights - sponsored a rider
- ♥ Rick Turner - caring for all of our tack
- ♥ Eileen Palmer - grain & fly spray
- ♥ Don Gerth - adopted Dusty for 2012
- ♥ Dick & Linda Taylor
- ♥ Jen Hall - for bringing Parelli to EAT
- ♥ Keith Pey & Cynthia Cooper - Wells Fargo
- ♥ Morgan Stanley through the efforts of Larry Diamond
- ♥ Saputo Family for bringing 2 cases of water for our T&C volunteers
- ♥ Linda _____ for soap and toweling for our WW bathrooms
- ♥ Lynn Schmidt sent a donation in honor of EAT participant, Emilys Great Aunt Pearls 90th birthday! Happy Birthday Aunt Pearl and thank you to the Schmidt family for including EAT in the celebration
- ♥ Community Service - Kelly Shannahan bathed Monroe, Obi and Dusty
- ♥ Robin Bair did some Spring cleaning and donated some great horsey stuff for our new building.
- ♥ A "Derby at the Byrdie" party was held May 3rd at the Byrd Boutique in Clayton which brought in a lovely donation for EAT! Thank you Julie and all for choosing EAT

as your event charity. Also, look for pictures of Julie posing with our Dewey in next months Delux magazine.

- ♥ Every year Ginger Bay Day Spa chooses a charity to benefit from its annual Spa-tacular Event and we are so excited that they've chosen Equine-Assisted Therapy this year.
- ♥ June 6th, EAT will be sponsoring Variety: The Childrens Charity as part of their annual Summer Camp program at our Wildwood location. It's a fun day of learning, riding, and crafting for the Variety Campers and we're proud to be a part of so much fun!
- ♥ Todd and Michele Oswald for their donation of a refrigerator for our new lobby.
- ♥ Tiffany Schroeder for her donation in honor of her mom, Sally Morton, on Mothers Day
- ♥ Thanks to the Mary Lou Shannahan Foundation, Equine-Assisted Therapy is able to offer cool breezes for lessons this summer at our Wildwood location. Last summers oppressive heat was the reason for many cancelled classes, not only for the sake of our participants, but also for our treasured volunteers and horses! This year, MLS has purchased 2 of the famous Big Ass Fans for our indoor arena. We are so excited to beat the heat this year!

Donors:

\$1 - \$100

- ♥ Grandma and Grandpa (Jim & Linda) Balfany in honor of Katie Balfany's 15th birthday
- ♥ In honor of Lee Stecks Mothers Day from her son, James Steck.

First Evangelical Free Church * 2012 EAT Egg Hunt

Thank you for those who came out to help run an Equine-Assisted Therapy field trip day for 35 homeschoolers from First Evangelical Free Church in Manchester. The day was a huge success and everyone had a great time thanks to:

Ginny Akre, Dora Angevine, Danielle Brantley, Pat Diemer, Karli Grazman, Raenee Koogler, Eileen Palmer, Sharon Phillips, Gaye Reagan, Marti Schlegel

And our 6 wonderful 2013 Seniors from Ursuline

After having to cancel our Annual Egg Hunt TWICE last year for rain, we finally pulled off the perfect egg hunt on a perfectly beautiful day this year! We had a record turnout! YAY!





Equine-Assisted Therapy News

Panels for EAT 's Indoor Arena

Instructor Karen Ernst is quite the salesperson! Karen saw a need at our new indoor arena, then went about getting results! Our indoor arena has insulated walls that will need to have 7 ft high wood kick walls to keep the horses/equipment/birds/etc from damaging the insulation. That wall is very cost prohibitive at this time of new construction so Karen came up with a cheaper plan and started a campaign. She purchased 30 fencing panels/gates to line the indoor arena with the help of those who pledged to purchase panels. So a big thanks goes out to Karen for her

campaign for EAT and another big thanks goes out to the panel sponsors, for helping us continue in our quest to make all of EAT's lessons safe and with quality in mind!

Barbara Shepard
Carol Ailor
Caryn Muendel
Cathy & Charles Dufour
Diane Breiding
Dick & Linda Taylor
Donald & Sally Morton
Ginni & Gary Hartke
James & Elizabeth Wilder

Jeannie Carr
Jody Delf
John & Susan Happe
Judith & David Kabbes
Karen Ernst
Kevin Mercer Wisniewski
Lee K. Steck
Linda & Dick Taylor
Linek Plumbing Co.
Ljiljana & Zlatko Sajdel
Mary Wyatt
Matthew Eckelkamp
Mitch & Joe Ennenbach
Monica & Steve West
Patricia Rimkus
Peter S & Barbara Smith
Ted Chrun

Scott Pitzer - Equine-Specialist



It had always been an ambition of mine to become a horseman, but it just never seemed practical. With other domestic and financial responsibilities always taking priority, my thoughts of pursuing horsemanship seemed like a distant dream. But when my then 7 year old daughter, Madison, decided that she wanted to make horseback riding her hobby, it was a perfect opportunity for me to both share a passion with Madison, as well as chase down a personal dream of my own. Little did I know at the time that my dream would evolve into so much more!

Shortly after Madison began riding lessons in the spring of 2011, I applied as a Relational Horsemanship Apprentice at the Humane Society of Missouri's Longmeadow Rescue Ranch. After just a few months of working with the abused, neglected, and abandoned horses at Longmeadow, I knew that I had found that "one thing" that fulfilled me, so I began researching other horsemanship related opportunities in the area. It was then that I had yet another strike of luck and stumbled upon the magic of Equine-Assisted Therapy. Although my original intent was to simply volunteer at EAT in any capacity necessary to help support EAT's wonderful mission, I soon realized that the skills that I was so fortunate to have developed as an apprentice at Longmeadow Rescue Ranch had the potential to positively impact both the horses and wonderful people that make up EAT. So when Gary and Ginni Hartke asked me if I would be interested in being EAT's Equine Specialist, I could not have been more excited! Now, a few months later, I find myself eyeball deep helping train the people and horses at EAT, and I'm absolutely loving every minute of it! I cannot even begin to explain the personal satisfaction that I feel knowing that, in addition to fulfilling a life long dream of my own, I am now also helping others to fulfill their dreams in a variety of ways. Volunteering my time at both EAT and Longmeadow Rescue Ranch is the single most rewarding thing that I have ever done!





Equine-Assisted Therapy News

Manchester United Methodist Church



Thanks to those from the Manchester United Methodist Church who came out to the Equine-Assisted Therapy facility in Wildwood and helped with scraping, painting, staining and general clean-up and yardwork.

Joy and Moe Parisien, Kims and Mira Staggenborg, Joy Eslick, Jan, Jeffrey, Ryan Stockton, Brent and Judy Miller, Jessica Diebold, Evan Kamp, Stacy and Kristen Lassa, Charlotte, Nicole, Kristen Sparks.



Kirkwood Middle School * Crescent Farm Poker Run

Thank you to Kirkwood Middle School for coming out to our Town and Country location to sweep, dust, pitch and wash.

You all were fun!



Ashley - Brandy -
Bridgett - Claire -
Emily - Erick - Gawaka - Hannah -
Jack - Julie - Katelyn - Kelly - Kendall
- Melanie - Natalie - Sean - Taylor



Thanks to all who helped put on our

very first ever Poker Run on May 5th at Crescent Farms. This event was hosted by Melody Roberts and Louisa Dean.

Mike & Scott Roberts -
Caryn Mundell - Bob
Philips - Eileen Palmer - Gaye Ragen



Vianney students: Ben Dean -
Matt Jansen - Joey Rearden - Ben
Schaller - T.J. Valenza

Living Word United Methodist Church - GO! Day



Living Word United Methodist Church

Ruth, Michael Cooper, Patty, Emma Durfee, Kevin, Janice, Drew, Kathryn Wenger, Terri, Logan Jordan, Susie O'Connell, Stacey Akers, Sue, Melodie DiPiano, Vicki, Dennis, Adam Echele, Dan, Amanda, Ben, Ryan Alber
Darren, Crystal, David, Addison McDowell, Denise, Kelsey, Kim Baich Tarra, Sierra, Pierce Buffum, Jacqui, Doug, Ty, Teagan, Bella, Alexa Ortmann, Sue Davis Barb, Heather Golden, Savannah Mitchell, Leslie, Nadia Harrison, Paul, Adam Brown, Leanne, Mitchell, Payton DeBold, Jerry, Brian, Ian Steiner, Denise Bertrand,



Equine-Assisted Therapy News

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This is our last newsletter to be sent out via the postal system. If you would like to continue receiving our newsletters please send your e-mail address to: info@equine-assistedtherapy.org and they will come right to your desk every other month! Thanks everyone!

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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