

Muzzles



R•E•A•C•H Therapeutic Riding Center

Spring 2014



“The future’s so bright, we gotta wear shades!”

Timbuk3, 1986

And the future is sizzling at REACH! There is so much to celebrate this spring!

We had the most successful fund-raising dinner ever – surpassing our goal by nearly **25%**!

Thanks to funding from several community grants, we made some much needed **arena improvements**, making it safer and more comfortable for our horses.

The Texas Farm Bureau spent a day with us and produced an amazing video explaining what we do out here. You can see it at <http://youtu.be/uxEQoky38sw>

Several of our wonderful donors, including the **Fentress Foundation**, **The Bernard and Audre Rapoport Foundation**, and **the Vietnam Veterans of America Post 1012**, have once again blessed us with their generosity to allow us to provide our equine services to more and more of our disabled neighbors!

Two of our **therapeutic riders** have progressed so much they are **participating in the McLennan Community College Highlander Ranch Open Horse Show** in May. Our best wishes go with them as they represent REACH!

And finally, I can’t say how thrilled and honored I am to be back at REACH. I look forward to continuing the excitement and growth our center is enjoying!

See you at the barn!
Barbara Epps
Executive Director



2014 Horses for Healing Dinner Exceeds Goal!

A few gale-force winds couldn’t keep REACH from throwing the party of the season this spring! We just moved the tables into the barn, closed the doors and got very close with each other!

Tables covered with black cloths and bright red geraniums lined the barn aisles. Sizzling quesadillas and jalapeno poppers lured everyone to the back of the barn for a delicious spread provided by George’s. Guests perused a plethora of silent auction items displayed along the back barn aisle and met the horses as they were prepared in the covered arena to show off their skills during the live auction. Three televisions were stationed around the barn showing videos and stills of riders, veterans and REACH programs.

Long-time REACH friend and supporter, Joe Calao, took the stage to get the evening started with a history of REACH and what we do. The special treat of the night was a riding demonstration by our four-legged therapists. Working in a therapeutic setting is very stressful for our horses, and a great way to help them relax is to ride them in the discipline and manner they were ridden before they came into the program.

During the live auction, guests were treated to a demonstration of Western Pleasure by Simon, ridden by award-winning

Doreen Atkinson from West. Therapeutic rider Jamie Karney rode Bailey, showing a variety of skills he has learned. Gunner was ridden by volunteer Shelby Ruggles, daughter of Program Director, Shea Ruggles. Originally scheduled to jump, due to weather constraints, Gunner and Shelby showed flat work for the crowd. Annie was a hit with volunteer Mikaela Spooner showing interactive vaulting positions. Mikaela mounted up again, this time on Kiddy to demonstrate positions used during hippotherapy. Our matriarch Aggie was paraded by Shea. And the culmination of the live auction and riding demonstration was Blys, once again ridden by Doreen, demonstrating the beautiful discipline of dressage, sometimes called “horse ballet.”

Thank you to all our sponsors, donors, volunteers and those in attendance who made the night so magical!



The use of the riding facility is made possible through the generosity of Gary and Diane Heavin.

www.REACHtrc.org • Ride@REACHtrc.org
www.facebook.com/REACHtrc • 254-848-7888

Mark Your Calendar

Summer 2014 Session Dates

June 10 - July 19

No Classes

July 4th

Reserve your lesson time now!
Programs@REACHtrc.org
www.REACHtrc.org

REACH
Horses
for
HEROES

A PATH INTERNATIONAL HORSES FOR VETERANS PROGRAM

*Honoring soldiers injured in service
in partnership with the horse.*



Horses for Heroes receives donation from Vietnam Veterans of America

Once again the **Vietnam Veterans of America Post 1012** has honored REACH with a donation to continue our mission to provide equine services for wounded area veterans. At the Tuesday, April 15, meeting of Horses for Heroes, Henry Kasper, President, and Marion (Rocky) Witt, Secretary, presented a \$500 check to Larry Barnett, Horses for Heroes Director, and Karen Fraser, Horses for Heroes Coordinator.

*Please keep our founder,
Larry Barnett, and his wife, Mariyln,
in your thoughts and prayers.
Marilyn will be undergoing
major surgery this week.*

Arena improvements will improve footing and drainage

Thanks to combined funding from the **Cooper Foundation** and the **Heart of Texas Electric Co-op**, we were able to greatly improve our arena this spring. With the addition of heavy-duty guttering and eight down-spouts, our arena will no longer flood when the spring storms come. Add on top several inches of river-bottom sand, and our arena will provide sure and safe footing for our horses for years to come!



Spend some quality FaceTime with Simon and Bailey!

Don't miss the hottest new fashion statement this year – the **2014 REACH Pony Club FaceTime t-shirt!** Join the club and support our riders and programs!

Membership in the club includes an **I Support REACH window sticker** for your car, a **REACH water bottle**, and the cool new **How About a Little Face Time? t-shirt** for 2014, designed just for Pony Club members.

Stop by the office or join online at www.REACHtrc.org.

SIGN UP NOW!

Monday-Friday
July 7-11 • July 14-18
6:00 - 8:30 pm

Saddle Up at Sunset! Summer Camp

Learn to ride horses this summer!

This able-bodied equestrian camp is for first-time riders or beginners wishing to learn more about horses and riding. Participants will play games on horseback, learn what horses eat, make horse pizzas, learn the parts of a horse by painting a horse and more!

Ages 7-15 • Cost - \$185

All proceeds benefit our disabled rider programs.

For more information or to register:

www.REACHtrc.org • 254-848-7888 • Programs@reachtrc.org

HORSESHOE HEROES

The real heroes of our center are listed below.

In appreciation to each of you for your unique and generous contributions to the people and programs of REACH.

Gary & Diane Heavin
Larry & Marilyn Barnett
Brazos Higher Education
Fentress Foundation
Steve & Candace Harrison
The First National Bank
of Central Texas

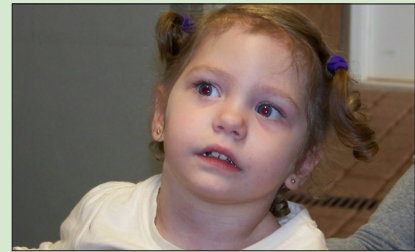
Academy for Speech & Language
Alliance Bank Central Texas
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American Quarter Horse Foundation
Jim & Kathy Anderson
Adam Arthurs
Rachel Ashcraft
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Wes & Rebecca Bailey



Baylor Pre-Vet Society
Donald Becker
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Bent Bucket Ministries
Cowgirl Get Together
Bird-Kultgen Ford
Tina Boatwright
Sidney Bolfig
John Booth
Curtis & Carrie Breuer
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Cahill Quarter Horses
Joe & Christine Calao

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Angela Cano - "Presley"
Central Texas Horseshoe
Pitching Assoc.
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Ted & Sue Getterman
Zandy & Carol Goode
Donna Grant
Hilary & Christopher Grant
Joe & Betsy Greak
Nancy McNamara Groover
Pamela Guidry - "Annie"
Randy & Virginia Hagens

H•E•B
Allison Harrison
Vivian Harvey
Nell & James Hawkins
Lily Hays
Heart of Texas Electric Co-op
Operation Round-Up



Henry Saddlery
Kim Hernandez
Rudy Herzog
Hillcrest Baptist Medical Center
Fred & Barbara Hills
Rick Hines
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Hope Therapy
Andy Horn Builder & Developer
HOT Fair & Rodeo
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Joy of Hope Foundation
Anita Karney
Christopher Kavanaugh
Keith's Ace Hardware
Valerie Kendrick
Tracy Kelly, DVM
Ramsgate Veterinary Clinic
Rosalie & Terrence Kettler
Beth Key - "Fire"
Jill King
Sherri Kneller
Joan Knouse
Sloan Kuehl

HORSESHOE HEROES

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Jim & Karen Lane
April Langston
Julie Latino
Dr. Ed Lee - "Blys"
Jay & Patricia Levine
Krystal Lund
Mark Mackey
ManeGait Therapeutic
Riding Center
Melissa Marsh
Jennifer Matthews - "Cody"
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John McClaren Chevrolet
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Mike & Lu McDonald
Carolyn McEachern
Bob & Diane McEachern
Data Systems of Texas
Kari McKown
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Waco Mayor's Committee
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Elizabeth & Michael Walley
Rebecca & Keith Warren
Christi & Chuck Weddington
Wells Fargo Bank
Which Wich? Superior Sandwiches
Hal Whitaker
Ann Whitley
Kathy Williams
Mary Ann & Stephen Zakrzewski

REACH Therapeutic Riding Center Mission

Improving the health, increasing the confidence, and promoting the independence of persons with special needs through the use of horses.