



Muzzles



R•E•A•C•H Therapeutic Riding Center

Spring 2012

Welcome to a New Year at the Center!

A new year brings new improvements to REACH! Beautiful American and Texas flags now fly over our center, thanks to Mitchell Spooner and Boy Scout Troop 308.

Our arena will be lit up brightly with two new lightpoles, providing light for evening lessons and the Horses for Heroes program.

And speaking of Horses for Heroes, the program continues to grow as we welcome our new coordinator for the program, Karen Fraser.

This spring finds REACH continuing to grow. We have surpassed the 40-rider mark this semester! We welcome back all of our continuing riders and families but extend a special greeting to our new participants. Thank you for your trust and allowing us the privilege of providing hippotherapy and therapeutic riding to you and your loved ones.

REACH could never have achieved what we have so far without the volunteers who continue to graciously donate their time and talents. Thanks to Kristin Volcik who tirelessly leads our volunteer team and the volunteers who are the foundation of each and every ride.

On a sad note, we learned of the unexpected death of volunteer Velma McDaniels in December. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her husband, Ricky.

Take care and see you at the barn.

Barbara Epps
Program Director



A Salute to Our Veteran Heroes

As you drive up to the Center this spring you'll notice a new flagpole proudly displaying the American and Texas flags. Donated by Boy Scouts of America Troop 308, the pole, flags and surrounding landscape improvements were the idea and project of Mitchell Spooner, senior at Reicher High School and candidate for Eagle Scout.



"The project is dedicated to REACH and the veterans involved in the Horses for Heroes program," said Spooner. "Their sacrifices and dedication to our nation are an inspiration to us all. I hope the flags will reflect that feeling."

Troop 308 will present a formal dedication ceremony on Tuesday, Feb. 21, at 5:00 pm. Everyone is invited.



Mark Your Calendar

Spring 2012 Session Dates

Feb. 7 – May 11

No Classes:

March 13 – 17 (Spring Break)

April 3 – 7 (Easter Break)

Spring Horse Show

Saturday, May 12



"Cowgirl Get Together" Makes Generous Gift

Thank you to Michelle Carson, organizer of the annual CowGirl Get Together in Tyler, Texas, for presenting a check for \$8,200 to the Horses for Heroes program. Their generosity and support will benefit the veterans and their families in our area.

The use of the riding facility is made possible through the generosity of Gary and Diane Heavin.
www.REACHtrc.org • REACHtrc@earthlink.net • www.Facebook.com/REACHtrc • 254-848-7888

EQUUS Foundation Announces New CHAMPIONS Program

The EQUUS Foundation has announced the launch of the CHAMPIONS program - an incentive-based equine service volunteer program to recognize and reward individuals and organizations on the carrots4acause network.

To become a CHAMPION, an individual must log a minimum of 24 volunteer hours from January 1st to December 31st. The volunteer hours will be verified by the organization and The EQUUS Foundation.

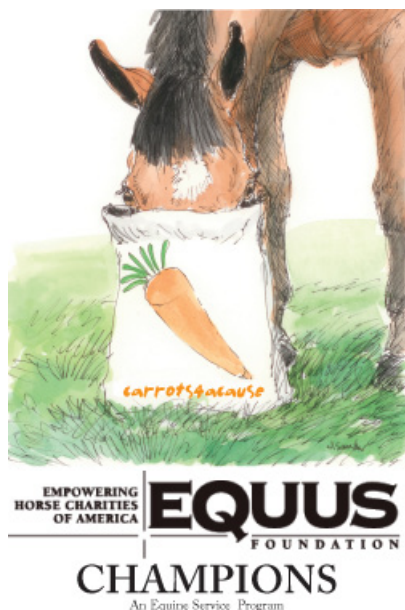
Once you achieve CHAMPION status, continue to log in your volunteer hours throughout the year as there are benefits still under development that involve rewards for the quantity of service.

Win a Grant for REACH!

Individuals who achieve CHAMPION status will be eligible for a drawing where the winner may select a charity on the carrots4acause network to receive an EQUUS Foundation grant. A minimum of \$5,000 in one or more grants will be awarded.

The drawing will be conducted on or before May 1st in the year following the close of the awards period.

Go to www.equusfoundation.org/get-involved-individual.php to sign up for the CHAMPIONS program!



For our student volunteers EQUUS offers the Champion of Equine Service Scholarships . . .

Individuals achieving CHAMPION status who have a GPA of 3.0 or above will be eligible to apply for CHAMPION of Equine Service scholarships. The eligible individuals will be required to complete an online application by February 15, 2013, including submission of the most current grade transcript from the high school, college, or graduate school the individual is attending.

The scholarship applications will be evaluated by a committee appointed by The Board of Directors. The number of hours of community service over and above the 24-hour minimum requirement and the impact of the community service will be taken into consideration in the selection process.

The EQUUS Foundation will select and notify the scholarship recipients by May 1, 2013. Upon submission of proof of college admission/enrollment by the scholarship recipient, The EQUUS Foundation will disburse the \$1,000 to the educational institution of the recipient. Eligible educational institutions include colleges, universities, trade schools, and vocational schools with an IRS 501c3 tax exempt status. A minimum of five \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded.



Spring Session of Horses for Heroes Gets Underway

Horses for Heroes kicked off the new year on Tuesday, January 31, with 12 participants and volunteers in attendance. Larry Barnett reviewed the first session and laid out plans for spring. After dinner, veterans and volunteers moved to the barn for a lunging demonstration and practice.

The new session brings a familiar face with a new title. Please welcome volunteer and PATH instructor, Karen Fraser, as our new Horses for Heroes Coordinator. Karen will be assisting Larry Barnett, Horses for Heroes Program Director, in marketing, recruiting and facilitating the program.

Join the 2012 REACH Pony Club

Be the power behind our horses and help support by becoming a Clydesdale, Thoroughbred or Shetland Pony level member. Receive an **I Support REACH window sticker** for your car, a **REACH Your Potential coffee mug**, or the cool new **iReach t-shirt** for 2012, designed just for Pony Club members.

Sign-up forms are available in the volunteer room and front office. And remember, volunteers and rider families can join for half-price!

Save Your Paper Feed bags

We're collecting paper feed bags to make tote bags as a fundraiser. Please bring your empty, flattened bags to Sue in the front office. And if you have a sewing machine and want to help, ask Sue for the directions!

2012 REACH Calendars

Help support REACH and keep track of your important appointments with the new 2012 REACH calendar! Thank you to Krystin Snodgrass for designing and producing the calendars. Each month features pictures of riders, horses, volunteers and staff.

Calendars are for sale in the office - only \$20!



HORSESHOE HEROES

The real heroes of our center are listed below. In appreciation to each of you for your unique and generous contribution to the people and programs of REACH.

Founder's Club

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

Horseshoe Circle

American Quarter Horse Foundation
Cooper Foundation
Heart of Texas Electric Co-op
Larry & Donna Morden
Bernard & Audre Rapoport
Foundation

Stable Mate

Christian Mission Concerns
Extraco Banks
H•E•B
Beth Key - "Fire"
Dr. Ed Lee - "Blys"
Jennifer Matthews - "Cody"
Shawn & Misty Petree - "Aggie"
Susan Spooner - "Sizzler"
Sonja Stamness - "Simon"
Kendra Suhling - "Chex & Topper"
Joyce Verona - "Lady"

Trail Boss

Classic Equine
Congress Clothing
Mike & Lu McDonald

Cowboy

Bent Bucket Ministries
Joe Calao & Christine Bergeron
Central National Bank
Hope Therapy
Jaynes, Reitmeyer, Boyd & Therrell
Diane McEachern
Data Systems of Texas
Don Sharp
Wells Fargo Bank

Wrangler

Alliance Bank
Wes & Rebecca Bailey
Bird-Kultgen Ford
Community Bank & Trust
Dr. & Mrs. Steven Cutbirth
Billy & Patty Davis
HOT Fair & Rodeo
Dr. & Mrs. Kelly Irons
ManeGait Therapeutic Riding Center
Kay & Lyndon Olson, Jr.
Providence Healthcare Network
Clifton & Betsy Robinson
Sam's Club
Waco Mayor's Committee
for People with Disabilities

Tenderfoot

Lynn Allinson
American Bank
Rachel Ashcraft
Sidney Bolfing
Cahill Quarter Horses
Kathi Childers
Lauri Cole
Mike & Pat Combs
Gerald Cox, DDS
Pediatric Dentistry
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Curtis
Bill & Patty Davis

Kyle & Diane Deaver
Chuck Doherty
Ron & Barbara Epps
Heather Field
Firmin Business Forms
Lisa Ford
Juan Garcia
Zandy & Carol Goode
Allison Harrison
Vivian Harvey
Rick Hines
Henry Saddlery
Hole in the Roof
Andy Horn Builder & Developer
Independent Bank
Rupert Issacson
Jan Jackson
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Johnson
Anita Karney
Tracy Kelly, DVM
Ramsgate Veterinary Clinic
Nancy Lacy
Jim & Karen Lane
April Langston
Julie Latino
Jay & Patricia Levine
Krystal Lund
John McClaren Chevrolet
Annie McCollum
Kari McKown
Merry Maids
Larry & Penny Moore
Christine Oxford
Patricia Peacock
Pioneer Steel & Pipe, Inc.
Paul Ruiz
Betsy Simpson
Chad Smith
Betsy Snipon
John Spelman Co.
Spooner Family
Dee Springer
Shelby Thompson
Kristin Volcik
Ann Whitley
Kathy Williams

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.