



Hoof and Hearts News Quarterly

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FIRST QUARTER, 2014

MARCH 31, 2013

United Way Representatives Visit Faith Equestrian

We were pleased to have several members of the United Way visit Faith Equestrian on January 18th and observe one of our Saturday therapeutic riding classes.



They all were excited to see first hand what therapeutic riding is and the excitement and joy shown on each participant's face.

We are so grateful for the United Way's support and the personal interest that the members have shown in our facility and our impact on the community.



Along with seeing a therapeutic riding class in action, they met some of our volunteers and horses, as well as received a tour of the facilities.



Please come back anytime. We love to show off our stuff!

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Savannah Speech and Hearing Come to FETC

Savannah Speech and Hearing Center enjoyed a three hour fieldtrip to Faith Equestrian Therapeutic Center on February 14th.

The kids enjoyed an Equine Facilitated Learning (EFL) experience. They learned how to groom a horse, how to put a halter on the horse, how to mount and the basics of riding.

Meanwhile, their speech pathologist Tracy, worked with the children's speech therapy. What a great combination of learning and fun.

FETC is here for our community and we'd like to remind everyone that fieldtrips are available. Call for more information—(912) 728-3728 or (912) 655-1480.



Mark Your Calendar—State Invitational Horse Show

The Special Olympics of Georgia is having a sanctioned invitational horse show to benefit Faith Equestrian for children and adults with intellectual challenges. The event is scheduled for Saturday, May 3, 2014 (Rain Date: Sunday, May 4) at Lost Creek Equine Center, 1251 Airport Road in Sylvania, Georgia. The theme of the event is "Inspiration—Courage—Empowerment". The Horse Show will benefit Faith Equestrian and will include a silent auction, food vendors and games for the kids.



Lost Creek Equine Center is a privately owned riding and boarding facility offering both western and English riding lessons. Lost Creek offers 53 beautiful acres and 2 riding arenas.

Come and watch athletes from therapeutic riding centers from across the state compete in trail classes, equitation, western riding and showmanship. This show will help prepare the athletes for the Special Olympics State Show in October.

You can help by becoming a sponsor and helping an athlete go for the gold! If interested in becoming a sponsor or to donate an item for the silent auction, please call Bonnie Rachael at 912-655-1480.

Sponsorship opportunities are as follows:

Clydesdale (\$1,000)

Receive a full page advertisement in the program.; be included in news media, signage and advertising. You will receive 10 tickets to purchase food, booth space for your company/group and 10 tickets to enter our "Date Night Raffle"

Golden Palomino (\$500)

Receive a half page advertisement in the program; be included in news media, signage and advertising. You will receive 5 tickets for food, booth space for your company/group and 5 tickets to enter our "Date Night Raffle."

Thoroughbred (\$250)

Receive a quarter page advertisement in the program; be included in news media and signage. Receive 2 tickets for food, booth space for your company/group and two tickets to enter our "Date Night Raffle."

Quarter Horse (\$100)

Receive an eighth page advertisement in the program and receive one ticket for our "Date Night Raffle".

The Special Olympic pledge is "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

Bring your family out and show your support for these special athletes. Get a tee shirt for a \$10 donation by going to our website,. Be sure to note your name and the size of tee shirt you need.

Thank you for supporting FETC and its athletes. I look forward to seeing you at the State Invitational Horse Show in May!

FETC Teams Up with SCORE

What is SCORE, you ask? SCORE, Counselors to America's Small Business, is a non-profit organization funded by congressional grants and private donations. They are a resource partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration, dedicated to helping the small business community through no-fee mentoring and business counseling. SCORE members volunteer their time and considerable business expertise to help coach the next generation of entrepreneurs.

SCORE is comprised of retired and employed volunteers coming from every facet of the business community. Some have worked for major corporations while others own or have

owned their own businesses. Their expertise includes the preparation of business plans, accounting systems, financial analysis budgeting, marketing, sales and assistance with SBA loan applications.

Bonnie has met several times with two of their volunteers from the Savannah office located at 111 East Liberty Street, in Savannah: Mr. Michael Siegel and Denis Healy.



Several Attend Parelli Workshop

On the weekend of March 1 & 2, 2014, several of our FETC family attended a Parelli Natural Horsemanship Workshop in Perry, Georgia.

This was a continuing education class to help everyone understand horses better and to continue to improve our partnerships with the horses as horse-leaders, sidewalkers and students.

The Parelli approach is not to train horses, but to teach each horse handler how to achieve success without force; a partnership without dominance; teamwork without fear; willingness without intimidation and harmony without coercion.

Jessica Meyer, one of our instructors, has been using the Parelli techniques for some time and encourages all those involved with Faith Equestrian to become more familiar with the techniques.

Those attending were Kristy Tilton and her grandparents, Ansley Rewis, Rachel and Elise Dijkstra, Mandee and Lucy Waldhour, Mary and Taylor Close, and Jessica Meyer.

Kristy, the only student attending, began this process

in January. She is beginning to do some ground work with the horse, i.e., learning how to halter, lead and groom. Through the training, she will improve coordination, strength and balance. This in turn will provide her more independence.



Anyone interested in becoming more knowledgeable in the Parelli National Horsemanship techniques needs to let Jessica or Bonnie know.



Our Mission

Faith Equestrian Therapeutic Center, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization formed to:

- Offer equine assisted riding and educational activities for children and adults with all types of mental, physical and emotional challenges.
- Help build life skills, confidence, and self esteem in a family friendly social environment.
- Offer these activities without regard to race, color, creed or financial need.



**United Way Agency
of the Coastal Empire**



Under Bonnie Rachael group or Faith Equestrian Page
Visit us on the web at www.faihtetc.org

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Volunteer Spotlight

This issue we would like to recognize the Waldhour Family. Lucie and her mother, Amanda (pictured at right) first came to us in March, 2012. They hit the ground running and haven't slowed their pace yet!

They are dedicated Saturday therapeutic riding class volunteers; worked with the Special Olympic athletes and accompanied the FETC athletes to competition last October.

They are both involved in the Parelli Natural Horsemanship training programs.



Lucie has also assisted with the Summer Horse Camp and is a horse leader and Amanda was our craft person for some of the weeks of Horse Camp last year and intends to help out again this year!

If not for volunteers like Amanda and Lucie, FETC would not be able to provide the services we do. They are always happy to assist in any way possible and always have a smile accompanying their helpful hand.

Thank you Waldhours—we couldn't do what we do, as well as we do, without your help!