



THE LEAD LINE

Letter from our President ...

2011 has been another outstanding year for Hope Springs as we continue to serve our challenged community teaching them that they can accomplish more than they ever dreamed. Horse Shows and Camps demonstrated how much our riders skills had improved. At the same time we strengthened our Special Education expertise and reached out to new riders. Again nothing can match the joy of accomplishment we see in the faces of our students as they ride in the serene surroundings of Hope Springs. Sincere thanks to all our friends and the foundations who have made this possible.

Sincerely,
Kenneth R. Swimm
President



**Horses of Hope
Holiday Note Cards**
(photo by Karen Zmuida)

**On sale at the barn
100% of purchases donated
to Hope Springs
Equestrian Therapy!**

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Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy is tax-exempt under Section 501 © 3 of the Internal Revenue Service. We are a member of the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations and the PA Council on Therapeutic Horsemanship.

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(610) 827-0931

The Joy of Summer Camp

We did a lot of cool activities at camp. We made nature bags, went on trust walks and made friendship bracelets and horse masks. The scavenger hunt was my favorite of all of them. I was a little nervous the first day. So many kids. But I knew the adults and that made me feel ok. We trotted in the ring. A lot of the volunteers were nice. I liked all of them. It was fun! I enjoyed interacting with the other kids that were there also. Miss Jan was nice.

— Lauren Struck, Rider at the June 2011 Camp

NEW!

Come join us for Winter Horse Camp at Hope Springs!

Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy is hosting a series of single-day winter horse camps over the Holiday Break. Campers of ALL ages are welcome! Please dress warmly and bring a lunch. Helmets will be provided. Sign up for one day or many; each day we will be discussing different topics regarding horse care and riding.

Camp hours: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Dates: December 20th, 21st, 22nd, 27th, 28th and 29th, 2011

Cost: \$60/day

Call 610-827-0931 to register or for more information

RIDE FOR HOPE

On September 10th, Hope Springs held its first Pace Event in several years at Marsh Creek State Park. A Pace Event is when a horse and rider follow a designated trail and complete it by a predetermined pace. Those riders closest to the time win the event. Even though Hurricane Irene hit the area with heavy rains and wind just a week before the event, we managed to clear and mark the trails. That Saturday, the weather cooperated and we had a beautiful fall day with almost 30 riders participating in the event. Our volunteers were wonderful, showing up early in the morning and staying until the last riders had safely returned.

While we had hoped to have more riders, the event was still a success for Hope Springs. We received many compliments from the riders about the beautiful trails and how great our volunteers were. Many said that they would gladly return next year and would encourage their friends to join in. We hope to make this an annual fund raising event and to re-introduce the horse community to the benefits of Hope Springs.



*Horses of Hope Sponsors
Judy Gertz (left) and Lisa Phifer
(right) with Hope Springs
Therapy Horse "Rascal."*



*Attending the Sponsor's Reception from
left to right: Sponsor Mark Comyns,
Wharton Financial Group, Hope Springs
Parent Jane Ann Yankelitis, Hope Springs
Therapy Horse "Beauty," Hope Springs
Rider Jill Yankelitis and Board Member
Jan Brooks.*

SPONSOR'S RECEPTION

Hope Springs hosted the Sponsor's Reception on September 15, 2011 to acknowledge and thank this year's **HORSES of HOPE** event sponsors. Although it was a chilly evening, sponsors, volunteers, staff, members of the Board of Directors and friends were in attendance.

The farm was lovely with a canopy and flowers thanks to Jeannie and our new banner and many lights making it bright and cheerful, thanks to Lisa and Judy!

Our guests were treated to refreshments, thanks to Carol and wine, thanks to Ken! We watched some of our riders as they participated in their lessons, met the horses of Hope Springs and enjoyed learning about the programs. What a treat!

Our special thanks to our sponsors, friends and volunteers for their support and to everyone who helped to make this a most special evening.

A BIG THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT JANUARY 1, 2011 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2011 !

THE ALLERTON FOUNDATION
CONNELLY FOUNDATION
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RJM FOUNDATION
ROSENLUND FAMILY FOUNDATION
THE SCHOLLER FOUNDATION
STEPHEN AND MARY BIRCH FOUNDATION
W. PERCY SIMPSON TRUST

In the Spring, 2011 issue of the Lead Line we wrote about improvements to the barn and ring. Our special thanks to The McLean Contributionship and the Widener Memorial Foundation in Aid of Handicapped Children for making that work possible!

Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy Inc. has assisted over 500 children and adults with special needs since 1997. This is only made possible through the help and support we receive from our friends, families, staff, foundations, businesses and the community.
HOW CAN I HELP?

BECOME A VOLUNTEER • SUPPORT OUR ANNUAL APPEAL • BECOME AN EVENT SPONSOR • ADOPT A HORSE • MAKE A DONATION
For more information on how you can help, visit www.hope-springs.org or call (610) 827-0931

Autumn 2011

SUMMER AND FALL

This **summer**, Hope Springs held four camps for our riders, including those from the Vanguard School. Each one week camp gave students the opportunity to learn basic riding and grooming skills if they were new, and to improve their riding skills if they were current students. Students, with the help of volunteers, learned many skills including how to groom and tack their horse, mount safely, walk and trot their horse, and guide their horse over poles on the ground and through a small obstacle course. They also enjoyed going on trail rides and participating in a scavenger hunt on horseback. At the end of each camp, students were able to show off their skills to their families by decorating their horses and riding in a horse show. Every child received a ribbon for his or her unique skills.

Students were involved in learning about the American Indians and how horses played such an important part of their lives. Each day, students listened to Indian stories and learned the meaning of respect for nature, trust, friendship, sportsmanship and celebration. Students then made Indian crafts such as nature bags, which were filled with different items found on a nature walk, horse masks, friendship bracelets, dragonflies, and painted and decorated horse shoes. They also learned how to play different Indian games and wrote stories using Indian symbols which they later used to paint on their horses for the horse shows. Due to wonderful volunteers and a dedicated staff of instructors (Miss Jeannie, Miss Dallas, Miss Heather and Miss Jan) students at Hope Springs had another wonderful summer camp experience. We look forward to another great year of campers in 2012.

Fall brought colors to life as a beautiful backdrop for our Fall Horse Show. We had many of our new riders and some of our long time riders in the show arena for the first time. Again the Northern Chester County 4-H Horse Club came and worked their magic on our horses and then enjoyed donuts and hot chocolate. So many smiles — the excitement from our riders was infectious and we had a large audience that cheered everyone on to try their very best. Another successful year for our riders in the arena!

On November 19 we had our first **Volunteer Appreciation** afternoon at the barn. Our Staff, friends and board members provided the wonderful food while we watched the movie "The Horse Boy." We sat on hay bales wrapped in (clean) horse blankets and settled in for a good afternoon. The movie was well received and we had good discussion afterwards. It has been decided by all that came "we need to do this again".....

Picture of "Beauty"
by Trey Gillice
Vanguard Camp
August, 2011



HORSES OF HOPE FUNDRAISER

On Saturday, October 8, 2011, Hope Springs celebrated fourteen years of service with its annual fund raising event **HORSES of HOPE** at Radnor Hunt in Malvern. Guests enjoyed cocktails, dinner and dancing in this beautiful Chester County setting. Music during the cocktail hour was performed by classical guitarist Brad Rau. Jazz vocalist Carolyn Nelson and the Steve Rudolf Trio provided our dinner and dancing music!

The highlight of the evening was our guest speaker Beth Sgarra, parent of Hope Springs rider Luca. Silent Auction bidding was fierce with over fifty wonderful items. Many thanks to all who worked so hard to make this event a great success!

HORSES of HOPE Sponsors

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Address Correction Requested.

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HOPE SPRINGS EQUESTRIAN THERAPY, INC.



THE LEAD LINE
Newsletter of

MEET THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF OUR HOPE SPRINGS STABLE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE HORSES OF HOPE SPRINGS VISIT OUR WEB SITE
WWW.HOPE-SPRINGS.ORG



MONTE

The newest member of our horse family, Monte is an 11 year old, 15.2 hand, black thorough-bred. He came to us from the barn where the Philadelphia Mounted Police horses had once been stabled near Fairmount Park. He has settled in very well and likes being brushed and does extremely well for the students. He is quiet and has lovely barn manners.



SMUDGE

Smudge joined Peter Pan at the Hope Springs barn this past Spring. At the October horse show, she tried to participate, but had to be content to watch the show from the outside of the ring!



RASCAL IS BACK!

Rascal retired several years ago due to some major foot problems, but they have been resolved and he wanted to come back- and so he did! Rascal is the perfect size for our younger riders and is staying busy giving many new riders the chance to learn to steer and feel the motion of a pony. Welcome back Rascal - we are so glad you are here!