



HOOF BEATS



Volume 1
Spring 2008

Special Equestrians, Inc.

A publication of the Pelham High School Pacesetter staff

4-H volunteer their time, talent at Equestrians

2007 was a great year at Special Equestrians. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves throughout the year.

We had a lot of returning volunteers and were fortunate to see some new faces around the stable. Most recently, a group of delightful young ladies from the Jefferson County 4-H club joined the volunteer ranks. There were six girls ages 13-16 and two admirable women who are mentors to the girls.

Special Equestrians strives to fulfill the expectations volunteers have. Each 4-H member had a different idea of what she wanted to get out of her participation. One young lady wanted to make a difference by improving a student's skill with riding and everyday life.

Another volunteer got involved to gain community service hours, however, it was not long before she soon found that this particular community service was more rewarding than she had ever anticipated.

The mothers had their own

notions of what they wanted to get out of the program. They had hoped Special equestrians would help the 4-H club grow from the experience by teaching the girls how to work cooperatively with the riders, the horses, and each other.

The volunteers also had their own assumptions of what the program would mean to them. Nonetheless, all the expectations were positive and more importantly they were all met.

Several of the girls are experienced horseback riders and participate in horse shows. They consider our students' riding experiences to be very different from their own, but also similar in many ways. Riding

to them can be very stressful, and they feel a lot of pressure to perform. After working with the students and instructors, they have a new perspective on riding a horse. They have learned how to just relax, have

they achieved what they have worked for. "Being able to join in the celebration of accomplishing goals for everyone," said one mother.

Society today can be very judgmental and superficial about individuals who are different. After volunteering at Special Equestrians for one session, the club members had a different view on people with abilities different from their own. They have learned that you should not make assumptions about someone because they are challenged in some way. Also, the students have taught these volunteers that they really are not that different from each other.

It is amazing how people take so many things in life for granted. The program has affected the girl's outlook on everyday activities. They all have learned to appreciate their own health and not to take the small things in life for granted. "Getting on a personal level with someone with a disability can really change your whole perspective on life," one member said.



4-H volunteers work to help those at Special Equestrians.

fun, and enjoy life.

The program had a very positive impact on the young ladies. The students were the most influential. Seeing a child's face light up when

Baird joins Special Equestrians

Jaime Baird is the new volunteer coordinator for Special Equestrians. Jaime attended Hoover High School and the University of South Alabama, graduating with a double major in Psychology and Biology. Jaime lives in nearby Hoover, only about 10 minutes from Indian Springs School, home of Special Equestrians.

Jaime's past association with Special Equestrians uniquely qualifies her for this position.

"I believe my degree and past school work have really helped prepare me for this job," Jaime commented. "Also, my past volunteer experience at Special Equestrians and other organizations over the past 13

years has helped me understand what a volunteer needs to feel a part of the program," Jaime continued.

Jaime's responsibilities include marketing Special Equestrians' volunteer program to interested groups, organizing and leading new volunteer trainings, communicating to all volunteers throughout the year, and assisting with special events.

Jaime has taken on quite a large task as the Special Equestrians volunteer coordinator, but she loves it. Jaime says, "The students are amazing. The volunteers can be the most incredible people ever."

Jaime especially loves classes with young children. "You can really see a difference in posture, speech, and their ability to follow instructions only after a few weeks. It reminds me why we're here," Jaime adds.

Chelsea Beall, 11th grade



North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, Inc.

PREMIER ACCREDITED CENTER

Ashley Spires learns to lead her own horse, loves interaction with volunteers

Ashley Spires is a young student that participates in Special Equestrians. When Ashley first started Special Equestrians, she decided, at the beginning of each term, that she did not want to ride again. Her mother, seeing the vast improvement in another rider, persevered in bringing Ashley each week.

Now, Ashley loves the interaction with the volunteers and the horses.

Her last two terms have been her favorite because her instructor, Janis, allowed her to control her own horse without the help of a Horse Handler.

This was a huge improvement for Ashley. She really felt that she was



controlling riding her horse, not just following a leader.

According to Mrs. Spires, Ashley's confidence while riding has improved. She said, "Once when her horse lost his footing, Ashley stayed on the horse. I knew I was right-Special Equestrians does work!" Mrs. Spires said.

"I am so glad that we persevered, and it has truly been a great

experience for us, not just Ashley. I am always humbled by the generosity and kindness of the wonderful volunteers throughout the years." Mrs. Spires said.

Special Equestrians is a great organization that can help children learn new skills and learn to be confident in everything they do.

Abi Ansley, 10th grade

Reed loves riding horses, obstacle course

Joshua Reed is fourteen years old and has been riding horses since the fall of 1998. To say that he enjoys riding would be an understatement.

Josh has taken to horses the way a fish takes to water. Although he has some lifetime limitations, his zest and love for the volunteers and the horses will be ongoing forever. He takes much pride in his ability to ride a horse and maneuver his equine friend through the obstacle course.

Josh loves people and animals. Special Equestrians has given him the best of both worlds. It has also touched his parents' lives as well.

(What a great group Special Equestrians is that they give their time and support to help those who cannot always help themselves.) Josh and his family feel blessed to have this service available for him and others who can ride and feel a sense of accomplishment.

Ashley Thompson, 11th grade



Family grateful for volunteers at Special Equestrians

Connor Owen is one of the many riders who have benefited from Special Equestrians. He began Special Equestrians in the fall of 2005.

Although he loves riding horses, he has many sensory issues and did not like to touch them when he started riding. He has made great strides and can now stroke the horses. Connor is also considered non-verbal; however, his first clear word while at Special Equestrians was the word "trot!" His joy of trotting has allowed him to become more verbal.

Although limited, Connor now uses more words, and with the help of Special Equestrians, he continues to work on his goals of maintaining eye-contact and sensory integration, among others.

Even though Connor still lacks the ability to interact with the horses, the milestones he continues to achieve through riding will help him learn pertinent skills and minimize his behavioral issues.

Connor's family is very grateful for the volunteers at Special Equestrians. It is very difficult to trust other people when your child has special needs. They have never questioned the ability and sincerity of these wonderful volunteers.



Brianna Radcliffe, 11th grade

Other ways you can help

Coupon Books

Help Special Equestrians raise the funds it needs through selling Coupon Books. There are more than **\$1,500 in valuable offers** in this year's book, and most deals are buy one get one free offers that you won't find anywhere else. And at \$15 per book, it pays for itself in no time! Help us reach our goal by selling these books in the month of March. Pick up your form at Special Equestrians today!

Birdies for Charity

You can help us by supporting the Regions Charity Classic by participating in the Birdies for Charity program. Special Equestrians will receive every single penny of donations generated through this program! You also have a chance to win great prizes. Go to www.regionscharityclassic.com and click on Birdies for Charity to make your pledge!

GoodSearch.com

How many times a day do you search the internet? Wouldn't it be great if Special Equestrians could receive money every time you did a search? Well we can! By using www.goodsearch.com, Special Equestrians will receive one penny every time you do a search. Just choose us as your charity of choice and search to your heart's content.



Ready for a vacation?

Charlene Doll has been volunteering with Special Equestrians since fall 2004 and works as an agent for Professional Travel, Inc. By planning your cruise or vacation package (excluding airline tickets) through Professional Travel, a portion of your purchase will go to Special

Equestrians. You can reach Charlene at (800) 247-0060. Just be sure to give her the code "Special Equestrians" when making your plans.



Special Equestrians, Inc. 2007 Annual Report

Board of Directors

Rita Mendel
President

Gregory Powell
Vice President

Ruth Smith
Treasurer

Annette Troxell
Secretary

Kathleen Claybrook
Executive Director

Susan Bezkor

Justin Fisher

Patrice Murphy

Sherrel Stewart

Raymond Winston

Professional Staff

Kathleen Claybrook
Executive Director

Jaime Baird
Volunteer Coordinator

Matthew Bunt
Fund Development Coordinator

Catherine Smith
Volunteer Equine Manager

NARHA Registered Instructors

Pam Abdulla

Matthew Bunt

Janis Carr

Kathleen Claybrook

Sally Cope

Ellen Davis

Betsy Guttshall

Kristin McDonald

Jennifer McWherter

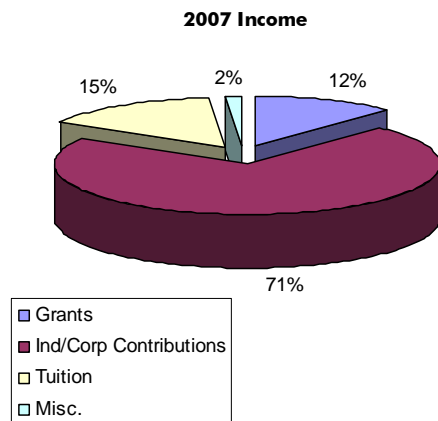
Mission

The mission of Special Equestrians, Inc. is to provide high quality therapeutic horseback riding and equine assisted activities/therapies to persons with physical, mental, developmental, and emotional disabilities.

Accreditation

Special Equestrians, Inc. is recognized as a Premier Accredited Center through the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association (NARHA).

Financial Information



Income		
Grants	24,050	12%
Ind/Corp Contributions	146,125	71%
Tuition	30,132	15%
Miscellaneous	<u>3,065</u>	2%
Total Income	203,372	
<i>Unaudited</i>		
Expense		
Program	143,099	87%
Administration	4,934	3%
Fundraising	<u>16,448</u>	10%
Total Expense	164,482	
<i>Unaudited</i>		

Participation

102 Riders Served

- 9 weekly classes in spring and fall
- 6 weekly classes in summer

Meet the Team week was started and allowed riders' loved ones the opportunity to get to know the instructor and volunteer team. This event also taught them the challenges that horseback riding presents to their rider.

Types of Disabilities Served

ADD	Mental Retardation
Autism	Multiple Sclerosis
Cerebral Palsy	Muscular Dystrophy
Developmental Delay or Disability	Paralysis
Downs Syndrome	Orthopedic
Emotional, Behavioral, or Mental Health	Speech Impairment
Head Trauma/Brain Injury	Spina Bifida
Hearing Impairment	Spinal Cord Injury
Learning Disability	Visual Impairment

Collaborators

Arc of Jefferson County
 Indian Springs School's Washington Day Camp
 Linda Nolen Learning Center
 UAB/Engel Therapeutic Preschool

Staff

257 Volunteers provided over 12,000 hours of service
 10 horses
 9 NARHA Registered Instructors
 1 full-time and 2 part-time professional staff

2007 Supporters

AAA Solutions	Florence Blakeslee	Christ the King Lutheran Church	Marc & Marty Eason
David & Janet Aarons	Shannon Blount	Brad & Sonya Christopher	EBSCO Industries, Inc.
Georgia Adams	Blue Bell Creameries	Kathi Claybrook	El Paso Corporation
Advanced Weight Loss Center	Blue Ocean Technologies	Gary & Eva Click	Charles & Jane Ellis
Alabama 4-H Youth	Brandi Boothe	J. Trotter Cobb	Tamiko Elston
Development Center	Dr. Lauren Bourgeois	Coca-Cola Bottling Company	Engineering Design Group
Alabama Civil Justice	Wayne Bowling	Mr. & Mrs. L. E. Coleman	Robert & Mary Ann Enoch
Foundation	Hannah Boyd	Community Foundation	Equi-Ternatives, Inc.
Alabama Civil Justice	Kim Braasch	Companion Verterinary Clinics	Bruce E. Erhardt
Foundation	Royce & Heather Bradley	Compass Bank	Erin Equine Services
Alabama Power Donation	Sharon Brandstadt	Mike & Carol Conley	Espree Animal Products
William R. Allen	Michael Brannen	Joshua & Jamie Cook	Linda & Kerry Estell
Lindsey J. Allison	Peggy Branyon	Penny Cook	Carol Ann Ettinger
T.M. & Pamala Allison	Robet & Melanie Brewer	Coosa Valley Milling & Hardware	Charles & Terry Evans
Lisa P. Allison	Knox Bricken	Coosa Valley Vet	Karen Evans
Allstate Giving Campaign	Kurt R. Britnell	Sally & William Cope	Exhibitor Labs
Altamont School	Howard Brooks	Lisa Costabile	Tracy Faircloth
America's First Credit Union	Brookwood Medical Auxiliary	Lynn M. Coughlin	Julia Fargason
Charles & Malissa Anderson	Matthews Brown	Bryan & Rebekah Council	John William & Jennifer Farley
John & Lori Anderson	R. & L.A. Bruno	Cowboy Magic	Connor & Lucy Farmer
Nate & Carrie Anderson	Mickie Bryan	Delma & Judith Craft	Monty M. Ferlisi
James & Marilyn Anthony	Carlos & Glenda Brzobohaty	Linda Crain	Charles Fial
Sherry Atkinson	Burr & Forman LLP	Jerome H. Cravey	Fi-Plan Partners
Gary C. Bailey	Elizabeth Burttrum	Earnest & Dean Creel	Justin Fisher
Eleesa Bailey	Madeline Busby	Johnny & Paula Crooks	John & Laura Fiveash
Chris & Judy Baker	Stephen & Janet Butler	Gisele Crowe	LaWayne Fleming
Frank & Allyson Baker	Rene Byrd	Joe Curlette	Jan Fortson
Robert & Louise Balazs	C & C Tack Shop	The Daniel Foundation of	Dickens Fournet
Kari Balazs	Cahaba Radial Tire, Inc.	Alabama	Blake Frazier
Jenna Balcom	Dana Caldwell	Dairy Queen at Brook Highland	Michelle & Seth Galloway
BancorpSouth	Gerald & Nancy Calma	Dave Engel Insurance Agency	George Gaskin
Joseph Barnes	Pat & Ehney Camp	Glen & Ellen Davis	Ken Gentry
Jean Barnett	Capital Return Incorporated	Judith Davis	Mitzi George
John & Margaret Barron	Teresa Caradine	Tamara Davis	Mary & Rene Germann
Jackie & Daniel Basik	The Caring Foundation	Laura & Christopher Davis	Dan & Cindy Germond
Jeff Baumann	Carino's Italian Grill	Michael & Toni Davis, Jr.	Rosalie & Joe Giattina
Deborah A. Baumhower	Carousel Tack Shoppe 2	Robert Dawson	Girl Scout Troop 93
Van Beamon	Louise G. Carr	John A DeMarco	Amy Glass
Randall & Patricia Bean	Bert & Gina Carruth	Chris & Lisa Dickey	Glass Central of Alabama
BellSouth Corporation	Jill Carter	Carolyn Dickey	Goldberg & Associates LLC
Ethan Bender	Tracy Carter	Corynn Dielen	Golden Flake Snack Foods
Benefit Partners LLC	Mrs. W.A. Carter	Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Dinan	Richard Goldstein
Sara E Bennett	Emma Leigh Castleberry	Dixie Trailer Works, Inc.	Scott & Charlotte Graham
James & Jacqueline Beretta	Jennifer Cauthen	Charlene Doll	Susan Gray
Yvonne Berryhill	Central Life Sciences	Mark Donaldson	Hollie A. Green
Susan Bezkor	Carl E. & Karen Chamblee	Jane Dow	Brandon & Melissa Greer
Birmingham Hide & Tallow Co.	Changes In Latitude	Evelyn Driggers	Ronny & Susan Greer
Anne W. Bishop	David & Jane Chaplin	Ashley Durham	Madge Gregg
Tammy Blackerby	David & Cindy Chasteen	Durham & Associates, Inc.	Gregory & Allison Griffith

2007 Supporters

Ben & Janet Grogan	Johnstone Supply	Debbie Marcus	Derl & Dorothy Nelson
Buffi Grogan	Robbie Jones	Daniel & Beverly Marson	Robert & Marion Nichols
Elizabeth Gunn	JT International Distributors	Eloise Martin	Myrna Nickelsen
Betsy Guttshall	Brian Kasarjian	Dee C. Martin	Gladys Norrell
Ronald & Maude Hagar	Lawrence Katz	Carol Matheny	Anna Oberholster
Hagler & Brocato LLC	KCS Group	Leigh Mattox	Kathy Odom
Caroline Hall	Melissa Keeling	Jenny M. McClellan	Karen Olshan
Elizabeth Hamric	Judy Kehr	Gregory & Linda McCormick	Joseph G. Orlinski
Jonathan & Lianne Hand	Wayne Keith	Lance McCoy	Sharon Owen
William Hanlin	Kelly Enterprises	Chris McCoy	Richard T. Owens
Hub & Kathryn Harrington	Kerrits Equestrian Apparel	John McCurdy	Frances Owens
Kenneth & Robyn Harris	Andrew & Debbie Kimble	Scott McDuffie	Catherine Pace
Linda Harrison	Gerri M. Kimble	Michael & Ruth Ann McGarty	Melanie Brook Palmer
Eugenie Hartmann	Jared & Stephanie Kirby	Steve & Veronica McGee	Parelli
Steve Hatcher	Toby Beth Kirsch	Matthew & Susan McGlynn	Joanne M. Parker
Katie Hathcock	Robert Knerr	Eileen McGlynn	Jay Parsons
Margaret Heard	Michael & Kelly Knerr	Tracy McGlynn	Nalini & Minesh Patel
Tara Herges	Hazel M. Koschney	J.F. McGlynn	Melissa Patterson
Ashlea Herrero	Nancy Labriola	Stephen McGlynn, Jr.	Pauline Tutwiler
Derry & Maryjayne Herring	Lakeshore Foundation	Gerrin McGowan	Andrew Payant
Joan Hicks	David & Angie Lamb	Alice McHugh	Lillian P. Peck
Joy Hindman	L'Amicale Womans Club	Bruce & Wendy McKee	Tom & Terri Perkins
Bip Hitson	Dale Lane	Jenni McWherter	PETCO
J. M. Hogewood	John Langlow	Karah Melton	Patty Piper
Scott & Brittney Hogue	Robert Larue	Jack & Rita Mendel	Gregory Powell
Kathleen & Joseph Holcombe	William & Patricia Lawson	John & Renee Metcalf	W. Ray Powell
William Holman	Scott & Jessica Lawson	Mid State Farmers Co-Op	Wilbur Powell
Kathy Holmes	Gerald Layton	The Mill House Natural Foods	Ellen Prey
Jammye McCutcheon Holmes	Leonard & Eileen Levin	Lance & Tiffany Miller	Brandon M. Pritts
Terry & Peggy Horne	Lewis & Company Ltd., Inc.	Hester Miner	Protective Life Foundation
Angie Horton	Caroline Lide-Oyler	Linda Carol Miner	Publix #0882
Olivia Howard	Dr. & Mrs. Eugene Linberg	Bonnie Saulter Mizerany	Derrick & Vickie Ragland
Lisa M. Hoytt	M.M. Wilson Lincoln	Glenith N. Moncus	Alanna K. Ralph
Camie L. Huett	Jon P. Lindberg	Montclair Animal Clinic	Luke Ranieri
Hueytown Saddle Tramps	Judith Lindley	James D. Montgomery	Gary M. Ray, MD
Meagan Hughes	James & Tammy Lindsey	Lilot S. Moorman	Red Hawk Restaurant Group
Darryl Hunt	Bryan & LeAnne Lipham	Teresa Moran	Regions Bank
Linda Hunt	Brenda Lofton	Clifford & Jenny Moss	Regions Charity Classic
Carol Hyche	Kathleen Lontine	Mrs. Pasture's Cookies for Horses	Foundation
Pamela S. Ibrahim	Merrie Loper	Janis Mullins	Revere Control Systems
International Riding Helmets	Yvonne Lopez	Eugenia Mullins	Revis Auto Service
Priscilla Irwin	E. A. Lowenthal	Tom Mulrooney	Donald & Gwen Rice
Penny Jackson	Kathleen Luckey	Jackie Murphey	Mark & Jennice Richardson
Jemison Investment Co. Inc.	Dawn Lupton	Gail Murphree	Richard & Cynthia Richmond
Jim & Carol Filler	Marilyn Macey	Lindsay & Michael Murphy	River Run Farms
Jim 'n Nicks Bar-B-Q	Stacey Maddox	Michael Nagy	Rhoda R. Rivers
Jodies Harness & Tack	Tracy Mandabach	Brian Nash	David & Beebe Roberts
William Tipton Johnson	George Mange	Ray & Kim Neeley	Melanie Roberts
B. T. Johnson	Bennie J. Mangina, Jr.		Ceil Rock

2007 Supporters

Brian Rodgers	David & Kimberly South	Kimberly Tharpe	Howard & Eva Weintrob
Clyde & Laurie Rogers	Southern Nuclear Operating	Linda Thompson	James & Monica Wesson
Janet Rogers	Company	Ben Thompson	Sandra West-Pegram
Fausto & Carmen Ruesga	Karen & Sean Sovacool	Thompson Foundation	Carol J. White
Michael & Lisa Russell	John & Janice Spence	James H. Tinker	Donna Whitten
Rusty's Floor Covering, Inc.	Theresa Spires	Sharon Tinsley	John & Jill Wiggins
James Salter	St. Clair Farmers Coop	Amy Tomberlin	David & Sharon Wilkins
Robert Sarasna	Standard Heating & Air	Jennifer Tran-Reno	Trumi Wilkinson
Jacqueline Scoggins	Conditioning Company	Joanne Tropeano	Donald D Williams
James & Kay Scott	Stanley Steamer Carpet Cleaner	Pat J. Troxell	Marilyn G. Williams
Melissa Scott	Starke Life Agency	Annette Troxell & Jim Collins	Kristina Wilson
Virginia Scruggs	Brian & Catherine Stauss	Mark Tucker	Johnny & Julia Wise
Steve & Kim Sebastian	Mary Frances Stayton	Gloria Turk	Laura Witcher
Lauren Self	Renee Steeley	Melissa Turnage	Ron & Darlene Womack
William Senter	Max & Margaret Stern	Martha Turner	Jeffery & Pamela Wood
Stephanie Shamsuddin	Steward Machine Company	Willie Tyree	Carl Wood
Jeffrey Shannon	Sherrel Stewart	James Uhl	Regina Wood
Regina Shannon	Dennis & Linda Stockman	Betty Underwood	Charles & Genie Woodroof
Pamela Shepard	Ronald & Teresa Stokes	Union Methodist UMW	Willodean G. Woods
Wendi R. Shoop	Straight Arrow Products, Inc.	United Methodist UMW	Michael & Erma Wooten
Janet Skotnicki	Glenn & Norma Stricklin	Fred & Deborah Van Zalingen	Robert Worthey
Louisa Skowronek	Patrick & Claudia Sullivan	Shelby Vandegrift	Nancy Wynn
Andrea W. Smith	Summit Industries, Inc.	Mary A. Vann	James & Lisa Yamshak
W. Wheeler Smith	James & Donna Sumners	Micah Waddell	Kelley Young
Charles & Dawn Smith	Susan Mott Webb Charitable	Annette Wade	William Young
Catherine & Gregory Smith	Trust	Katie Johnson Wagner	Norma R. Young
Janet Smith	Azita Takeshian, M.D.	Angel & Allan Waldrop	Jane Young
Jena Smith	Carlton Tanner	Randel & Debbie Walker	Evan Zeiger, Jr. &
Ruth Smith	Lauren Tarrant	Jessica Wallace	Margaret Shook
Miranda Smoot	Rebecca Tea	W.E. Prince & Alecia Warnock	
Theresa Sorenson	Tenet Healthcare Foundation	Joseph & Summer Watts	

Honor/Memorials

Memorials

In Memory of Mary Kate Born
Given by Jack & Rita Mendel

In Memory of Hubert Couch
Given by Monica & James Wesson

In Memory of Anita Cowart
Given by Monica & James Wesson

In Memory of Mary Margaret Murphy
Given by Linda & Michael Crain
Given by Rita Mendel & Special Equestrians

In Memory of Ben Thompson
Given by Linda & Dan Thompson

In Memory of Sydney Weinstein
Given by Elizabeth & William Gunn

Honorariums

In Honor of Beth Bax & Family
Given by Monica & James Wesson

In Honor of Dr. Jon Bax & Family
Given by Monica & James Wesson

In Honor of Janis Carr
Given by Louise & Jack Carr

In Honor of Margaret Evans
Given by Jack & Rita Mendel

In Honor of Rachel Dickey
Given by Kathy Odom

In Honor of Dan Goldberg
Given by Susan Gray

In Honor of Neal S. Johnston, Sr.
Given by Genie & Charles Woodruff

In Honor of Mr. & Mrs. Gary Layne
Given by Monica & James Wesson

In Honor of Steve Norby
Given by Charles Fial

In Honor of Mr. & Mrs. Trey Riley
Given by Monica & James Wesson

In Honor of Annette Troxell-Collins
Given by Jean H. Barnett

In Honor of Stella Wesnor
Given by William Allen

In Honor of Betty Wesson
Given by Monica & James Wesson

In Honor of Bob Wesson
Given by Monica & James Wesson

***In Honor of the Volunteers of
Special Equestrians***
Given by Janet & Michael Skotnicki

Special Equestrians Wish List

We always welcome monetary gifts, but you might rather buy something we need and make a tax-deductible, in-kind contribution. Let us know how you would like to help!

- 2 Picnic Tables w/attached seats
- Circular Saw
- Fly Spray Concentrate
- Equine Spot-on Fly Control
- Copy Paper
- Copier Toner -Canon PC920(E40)
- Postage
- Round Pen

Facility Repairs/ Additions

- Road paved
- Portable classroom
- Electrical work in stable by certified electrician
- Repairs to leaking roof in Stable
- Roof coating for Stable
- Gutters with guards for stable
- Repair insulation-covered arena
- Windows rebuilt on stable (roadside)
- New Matching Office Furniture:
 - 4 computer desks
 - 1 work table
- Counter workspace with cabinets underneath for storage.
- Electricity run to the Arena by a certified electrician
- Lights for the Arena
- Run-in shed in upper pasture
- Lean-to built for lawnmower
- Hardwood mulch-Sensory Trail

Grounds Assistance

If you have experience with yard work or repairs, we can always use some help! Gift cards for Wal-Mart, Lowe's or Office Depot are an easy way for you to make a contribution and leave the shopping to us!

Activities enjoyed by donors, participants

Riverdance Candlelight Dinner

April 20, 2007
Hosted by Marjorie and Alex Jones,



Kathie and Stewart Welch, Adair and Whitney DeBardeleben, Wendy and Billy White, and Chip Hazelrig. Riverdance Candlelight Dinner raised over \$60,000 to benefit the mission of Special Equestrians. This event was held at Swann Lake Stables on the Little Cahaba. After dinner guests enjoyed music by "1964" ... The Tribute.

Derby Day

May 5, 2007
Special Equestrians' Derby Day celebration allowed students who participate in the therapeutic horseback riding program to demonstrate the skills they learned to their instructors, family and friends. This celebration also recognizes the volunteers and community supporters. Lunch was provided by Jim n' Nicks Bar-B-Q, Golden Flake, Coca-Cola Bottling Company, and Blue Bell Creameries.



Participants enjoyed face-painting, stick horse races and more.



11th Annual Fore the Children Golf Tournament

October 11, 2007
Stanley Steemer

and Fi-Plan Partners presented the 11th Annual Fore the Children Golf Tournament. Raising over \$20,000, Fore the Children offered a wonderful opportunity for area businesses and individuals to support Special Equestrians while providing a fun and beautiful day at Ballantrae Golf Club in Pelham. Bobby Humphrey and Mayor Bobby Hayes were in attendance. Participants also enjoyed an exceptional lunch provided by Carino's Italian Grill. Evening appetizers were provided by Applebees, Moe's Southwest Grill, Salvatore's Pizza and Publix.



Publix.

T.H.R.I.L.L. Ride

(Therapeutic Horseback Riding Is a Labor of Love)
November 3, 2007
Chaired by Kelly Montgomery from River Run Farms



Over 70 riders enjoyed a day of riding through the trails near the Cahaba River as Gates Shaw hosted

the 2007 T.H.R.I.L.L. Ride. Our friends from River Run Farms did an exceptional job planning and preparing lunch, organizing the silent auction, and entertaining the crowd with their drill team presentation! With their help we raised over \$11,000 to support the mission of Special Equestrians.

Carousel Tack Shoppe, Goldberg & Associates, Coca-Cola, Golden Flake, and Bud's Best Cookies sponsored prizes and lunch for this popular event. The weather was perfect !!

Student Ride-a-thon

At the end of our Fall term the riders of Special Equestrians also enjoyed a day of trail riding through the campus while raising over \$8,000 for the program. The riders were all given goody bags and trophies were awarded to the top fundraisers. Our riders are awesome!!!



If you would like to become a supporter of Special Equestrians, please contact us at (205) 987-WHOA (9562)

www.specialequestrians.org

Special Equestrians, Inc.
1215 Woodward Drive
Indian Springs, AL 35124
(205) 987-WHOA (9462)



Upcoming Events

Spring Class Schedule

March 1 – May 8

Spring Break (no classes) will be March 18 – 23

May 3–May 8

Spring Horse Show for Special Equestrians Riders to be held during regular class times.

Family and friends are invited!

May 10

Volunteer Appreciation Day Details to come!

May 14-18

Regions Charity Classic at Ross Bridge

Support Special Equestrians through Birdies for Charity (Details inside)

May 17

State Special Olympics in Troy, AL

October 2

“Save the Date” for our 12th Annual Fore the Children Golf Tournament

Raymond Winston

Sherrel Stewart

Justin Fisher

Susan Bezkor

Patrice Murphy
Past President

Secretary

Annette Troxell

Treasurer

Ruth Smith

Gregory Powell
Vice President

President

Rita Mendel

Board of Directors

Staff and Instructors

Kathleen M. Claybrook
Executive Director

Jaime Baird
Volunteer Coordinator

Matthew Bunt
*Fund Development
Coordinator*

Catherine Smith
Equine Manager

Pam Abdulla
Head Instructor

Sally Cope
Ellen Davis
Betsy Guttsall

This newsletter is produced through the volunteers of the Pelham High School *Pacesetter* staff. Thanks for their assistance on this publication.