

# The Saddle Light Center for Therapeutic Horsemanship

Thanks to everyone who joined us at EquestFest on Oct. 7th! Despite some bad weather it was a great day again!

#### November 2018

#### **Official Newsletter for Saddle Light Riders, Volunteers & Supporters**

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#### Kerstin L. Fosdick

**Executive Director** Licensed Physical Therapist PATH Int. Registered Therapist in Hippotherapy PATH International Certified Therapeutic **Riding Instructor** 

#### The Saddle Light Center is a

non-profit corporation created in 1991 to help disabled people reach their full potential.

Our mission is to provide equestrian therapy for children, teenagers and adults with neurological, orthopedic, learning, emotional or other disabilities. Our goal is to inspire our riders to accomplishments previously considered beyond their capabilities.

The San Antonio Charro Association put on a wonderful performance in the arena. They explained the heritage of their riding and performed several stunts and rope tricks. It left all of us in awe! We are so grateful they agreed to be a part of Equest-Fest!























## Please join us at the 2018 Christmas Party

December 9th from 4:00 to 7:00 at the San Antonio Women's Club, 1717 San Pedro Ave. Food, music, raffle drawing, and a visit from a special guest!

It's not too late to buy or sell raffle tickets! 1 ticket for \$5 or 5 tickets for \$20. Prizes include: custom chiminea, party cooler, year of pizza, Samsung Galaxy, Americus Diamond pendant











### Please call the office at 210-651-9574 to RSVP by December 4th

# What's going on around the barn?

On Saturday October 20th a group of **volunteers from the Navy** came and scrubbed water buckets with CLR, stripped Mr. Cool's stall and cleaned the mats, and cleaned the aisle way. It was a lot of hard work—thank you for your time!









The Saddle Light Center has earned the **GuideStar 2018 Platinum Seal of Transparency**! This means we have met all of the following levels to get to the top: BRONZE: provide basic info about your organization so you can be found SILVER: be transparent about your finances so you can build trust GOLD: share your goals and strategies so you can tell others about your work PLATINUM: share your quantitative measures of progress and results to show the differences you make



#### **Dates to Remember:**

Winter Session: November 26th to March 8th Holiday Break: December 24th to January 4th





## You can support Saddle Light as you do your holiday shopping!

Most of us will be using Amazon as we do our holiday shopping—if you go to **smile**. **Amazon.com** and choose to support the Saddle Light Center, a portion of your spending will go to SLC.

You can also purchase SLC merchandise on our website—visit **http://thesaddlelightcenter.com/shop/** to see our merchandise that is available for purchase including caps and logo t-shirts. Custom made leather covered horse shoes are also available for a minimum \$20 donation. Or if you would like to honor someone special in your life with a donation to SLC, you can do so on our Shop page and we will send them an Honorary Gift Card.

Timber

Mahogany









This Gift will help provide food, shelter, an weterinary care for the Center's 12 hardworf's hones. May you be filed with the warmth a love of family and may you be blessed with g accomplicitments and true hapmens.

#### We are so thankful to have recently received the following grants:

- \$10,000 from Valero for "Covered Arena Operation Cool Down"
- \$12,000 from the San Antonio Area Foundation for horse and barn expenses
- \$5,000 from the **Gordon Hartman Foundation** for program expenses
- \$2,250 from the American Quarter Horse Association to allow 5 instructors to attend the PATH National Conference.

We couldn't do what we do without the support of organizations like these! We are so thankful!



On October 13th the **SOTA** President Victoria Alejandro arranged for her group from UT Health-SA to come spend an afternoon volunteering. They worked hard and accomplished a lot, including cleaning the alfalfa storage room, cleared cobwebs, removed and cleaned all corner feeders, cleaned saddles and added more shavings to the stalls. Thanks for all of your hard work!

#### Thank you to our amazing volunteers!

As 2018 comes to a close we want to say a special thank you to our volunteers! We couldn't provide our services to our riders without all of your help. Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season!









We're looking for dedicated and committed volunteers for a not so ordinary volunteer opportunity!

...working with the Saddle Light horses and the children who benefit from equestrian therapy!

We need over 120 volunteers each week to provide chores such as rider assistance by spotting, sidewalking, or horse leading, and horse care and barn chores. We also have opportunities for groups that want to fulfill a specific service project (great for church groups, college clubs, work teams and more).

Volunteer hours are from 3 pm to 9 pm Monday through Friday. Most volunteers sign up for either a 3:00 to 6:00 shift or 6:00 to 9:00. We also need volunteers to assist with barn chores on Saturday and Sunday mornings and afternoons. Contact us for more info—(210) 651-9574 or volcoor@sbcglobal.net. No experience necessary! We will teach you what you need to know.



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