

THE SADDLE LIGHT CENTER

NEWSLETTER


THE SADDLE LIGHT CENTER

For Therapeutic Horsemanship



The Saddle Light Center for Therapeutic Horsemanship

17530 Old Evans Road
Selma, TX 78154

 (210) 651 - 9574

 (210) 651 - 3495

 slcdirector@sbcglobal.net

 www.thesaddlelightcenter.com

Kerstin L. Fosdick

Executive Director

Licensed Physical Therapist
PATH Int. Registered Therapist
in Hippotherapy
PATH Int. Certified Therapeutic
Riding Instructor

The Saddle Light Center is a non-profit organization created in **1991** to help disabled people reach their full potential.

Our mission is to provide equestrian therapy for children, teenagers, and adults that have a disability including: neurological, orthopedic, learning, and emotional - as well as a wide range of others.

Our goal is to inspire our riders to accomplishments previously considered beyond their capabilities.



THANK YOU DR. BALL

While we are still missing our sweet Cinnamon, we were so touched to learn that our veterinarian Dr. Robert Ball of Bracken Equine Clinic, made a donation to the Texas Equine Veterinary Association in his memory. The TEVA Equitarian Project provides outreach to the working equines of the world. These funds are used to support a group of veterinarians, industry reps and students travel to countries around the world to provide routine care such as vaccinations and dental and farrier services to animals that would otherwise not receive treatment. A huge thank you to Dr. Ball for honoring Cinnamon in such a meaningful way!



WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND THE BARN

Help us in welcoming Rebecca Hollington as our new Volunteer Coordinator! Rebecca stepped into the role in February and we believe she will be an asset to our program.

The International Veterinary Acupuncture Society (IVAS) was here in October and November and returned again in January and February to utilize our horse partners for their Acupuncture Certification Program. Veterinarians, who are looking at this specialization, come from all over the United States to attend. It is always a rewarding experience for humans and horses alike when they come! In return for utilizing our horses, IVAS makes a generous donation to our program. The added bonus - all of our horses were treated during their time here!

On February 15th, Rebecca Hollington attended the UTSA Leadership & Volunteer Services Get Involved Fair to recruit volunteers and inform students of the impact The Saddle Light Center makes on the San Antonio community and how they can get involved. Thank you to UTSA for having us, it was a great event and we look forward to UTSA Day of Service on April 16!



Alumni from Trinity University

On March 5th, we were blessed to have a group of Alumni from Trinity University come volunteer with us. They spent their time cleaning up our tack - saddles, pads, bridles, and all - and making it shine like it was brand new! We are extremely grateful for their help and thank them for their time!

On March 12th, we were lucky enough to have a group of volunteers from Navy Medical Group come out and help us do a little Spring cleaning!

We put them to the test as they stripped Schooner, Lyle, and Kai's stall and pulled out their rubber stall mats. They then cleaned/disinfected the mats with Pine-Sol, swept the stall floors, replaced the mats, and bedded the stalls!

It was a lot of work and they passed with flying colors - we cannot thank them enough for their help! I know, Schooner, Lyle, and Kai thank you as well!

Navy Medical Group



On March 19th, we had the joy of having Students of Service – SOS come out for a group project!

They helped us clean and disinfect the horses' water buckets and oil the cavalettis! We are extremely thankful for their help and greatly appreciate their time. We are blessed to have such great community partners!

We are honored to have been featured in the March Issue of Community Impact Newspaper! You can find a direct link to the article here:

<https://editions.communityimpact.com/view/553560313/15/>

Thank you Tricia Schwennesen for taking the time to visit our organization and learn more about how we help make an impact on the life of individuals within the San Antonio community. We are very appreciative of your time and the feature! Also, a sincere thank you to Levi's mother, Vicky, for sharing his story! He brings such joy to our program.

Our amazing Tuesday Rider, Lee, was this year's Western Wishes recipient for the 2022 San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo! Congratulations Lee, it was well deserved!



Students of Service



Our New Barn Cats, Katie & Indie



Our Newest Horse Partner – Star

Say hey to the newest member of our horse partners – Star!

He is about 20 years old, and a Pony of the Americas. His color is considered Appaloosa but we think he looks like he was dusted with powdered sugar (maybe because he's such a sweetheart?).

His full name is My Shooting Star. If you see him in the barn, welcome him with a few pets and he will probably nuzzle you.

A sincere welcome to our new volunteers! We thank you for your dedication to our program, Our volunteers are the backbone of our program! Our next Volunteer Training will be held on April 16 from 10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. Help us spread the word! If you know anyone that may be interested, please have them email volcoor@sbcglobal.net.

We have added two barn cats to our pack. Make sure to give Katie and Indie some love when you see them in the barn!

Our Tuesday rider, Chris, graduated from our program!

He has accomplished so much over the past 14 years and we are extremely proud of him. We will miss his big hugs and beautiful smile around the barn but lucky for us, he said he would be writing letters!

Congratulations Chris! We wish you the best and are so proud!

This year we will be returning to the Helotes Festival Grounds to host EquestFest 2022 on October 16, 2022 from 1:00 - 6:00 P.M..

Tickets for EquestFest 2022 will go on sale, April 25th. Make sure to mark your calendars accordingly!

Pre-Sale Pricing - Adults: \$10.00 | Children: \$5.00

The funds raised through EquestFest play a critical role in the viability of our program and the care of our four-legged therapists and is responsible for approximately 20% of our budget. Your support of this event makes it possible to continue the high-quality care of our horses and keep our fees affordable!

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to seeing you there! If you are interested in sponsoring the event, please find further information on our website.



Chris' Graduation Ceremony



JOIN US AT

EQUESTFEST 2022

BENEFITTING THE SADDLE LIGHT CENTER FOR THERAPEUTIC HORSEMANSHIP

OCTOBER 16, 2022 | 1:00 - 6:00 P.M.
HELOTES FESTIVAL GROUNDS



We are excited to partner with the EQUUS Foundation for the Stepping Out for America's Horses Campaign to raise awareness of the positive impact horses have on our lives and their need for protection. The program has now been extended until June 15, 2022.

There are two ways to support us and our lovely Sonny D, who is featured in the campaign, while it is running! First, you can make a donation in honor of Sonny D at the link below:

<https://www.equusfoundation.org/give/donate-form-steppingout.php?eventid=2187&equineid=3562>

Or, you can register as an EQUUS Foundation 2022 #HorseProtector to raise additional funds on behalf of Sonny D at the link below:

<https://www.equusfoundation.org/steppingout/steppingout-register.php>

100% of the proceeds during the campaign made through donations from our custom link above or donations raised by registrants who select Sonny D as their favorite horse will go to The Saddle Light Center's equine therapy program.

Mark your calendars for this year's Rider's Showcase happening on Saturday, May 14, 2022 from 11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. Food and drinks will be provided to all volunteers, riders, and their families. Should you be interested in attending, please email the office - thesaddlelightcntr@sbcglobal.net - by May 2, 2022. Riders will be placed onto the schedule according to their skill levels.

Volunteers will also be needed for the event, should you be interested in helping out - please email volcoor@sbcglobal.net.

We have been honored with one of the first Top-Rated Awards of 2022 from GreatNonprofits!

If you have not already done so, we would love for you to visit our GreatNonprofits page and share how The Saddle Light Center has positively impacted your life!

We thank you all and appreciate all of your contributions and continued support!



EQUUS

FOUNDATION

Stepping Out for America's Horses

February 15-June 15, 2022



PRESENTED BY
Robb Report

Walk - Run Ride for America's Horses!

*Matching Campaign for
America's Wild Horses*



WWW.THESADDLELIGHTCENTER.COM
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

GRANTS & DONATIONS

The Amy Shelton McNutt Charitable Trust

We received the Amy Shelton McNutt Charitable Trust. For the 9th year in a row, this grant covered the cost of the annual check-up, teeth floatings and Coggins testing of our 13 horse partners.

American Association of Equine Practitioners

Due to the thoughtful recommendation from Dr. Robert Ball, we were granted the annual vaccinations for our horse partners through the American Association of Equine Practitioners.

San Antonio Metropolitan Area Charitable Campaign

Our application has been accepted to participate in the San Antonio Area Charitable Campaigns. This is a payroll deduction collected throughout the year from City of San Antonio Charitable Campaigns and the Combined School Districts Charitable Campaigns. These donations will be received in April 2022, July 2022, October 2022, and March 2023 and are unrestricted.

We are always looking for dedicated and committed volunteers for a not so ordinary volunteer opportunity!

... working with The Saddle Light horses and riders who benefit from our equine therapy program!

We need over 120 volunteers each week to provide support and help with items such as rider assistance by spotting, side-walking, or horse handling, 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).

We have two shifts on weekdays, the first from 3:00 - 6:00 P.M. and the second from 6:00 - 9:00 P.M.. Our weekend shifts focus more on general barn chores and we have both an A.M. and P.M. shift on Saturday and Sunday. No experience necessary! We will teach you the reigns, literally.

Contact Rebecca Hollington, our Volunteer Coordinator, at volcoor@sbcglobal.net for further information.

WWW.THESADDLELIGHTCENTER.COM

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM



The Saddle Light Center for Therapeutic Horsemanship
17530 Old Evans Road
Selma, TX 78154

Free
Matter for
the Blind
&
Disabled