



The Saddle Light Center for Therapeutic Horsemanship

October 2023

Official Newsletter for Saddle Light Riders, Volunteers & Supporters

The Saddle Light Center for Therapeutic Horsemanship

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Kerstin L. Fosdick

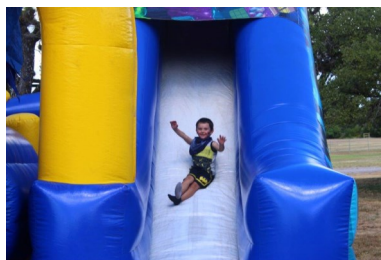
Executive Director
Licensed Physical Therapist
PATH Int. Registered Therapist in
Hippotherapy
PATH International
Certified Therapeutic
Riding Instructor

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.

Thanks for supporting EquestFest 2023!



Thank you to our sponsors!



L.C. Mosel Co., Daniel & Lisa Cornell, Jana Swigart-Smith
(In Memory of Lyle), Dorothy Cofield, Beth & Rob Mazak

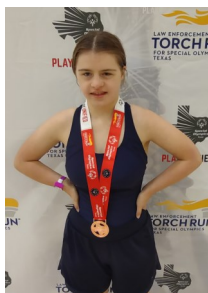


Contributors: Anne Walker, Clint Butler, Alison Gragg,
Bruce Jennings, Kerstin Fosdick, Martin Silva, Lissett Men-
doza



What's Going on Around the Barn?

We have some very talented individuals in our Equestrian Program here at the Saddle Light Center. **Johanna Vlasak**, a Tuesday rider, won a bronze Medal in the 25 meter back stroke and another Bronze Medal in the 25 meter breast stroke competition at the Special Olympic swim meet on



Tuesday, October 17, 2023. We also have a Monday rider, **Eliza Mills**, who won a Gold Medal with her dad, Barry, at the Texas Special Olympics Unified Golf State tournament in College Station on Saturday, October 21, 2023. Unified Golf joins people with



and without an intellectual disability to be on the same team. The players on each team alternate their shots throughout the tournament. They played 36 holes over two days and won the gold medal by four strokes. This qualifies Eliza and her dad for the nationals.



We will hold our **Christmas Party** at Morgan's Wonderland in the Event Center on Sunday, December 17, 2023 from 4pm – 7 pm. "Friends of The Saddle Light Center" band will play for us again. We will have finger foods and dessert and we will recognize the volunteers for their time and support throughout this year. We will award certificates for hours given and plaques for years given. The park will not be open as they have some construction going on. We do need reservations, so please either call or text the office, 210-651-9574. Please reserve by December 11th.



Recent Volunteer Groups:

- A group from Chase refinished our mounting ramps (pictured with Kai)
- A group from Lackland AFB painted the paddock fence (with Nike)
- A group from the NCOIC Commander's Action Group from Lackland AFB weeded the paddock fence line and cleaned our saddles.





Welcome to Magoo, the newest member of the SLC herd!

Magoo will be joining us after Thanksgiving! Her registered AQHA name is Twin Magoos, but everyone calls her Magoo. She is 14.3 hands and 19 years of age. She was born and raised at Northington Ranch in Boerne, TX. Magoo has sorted cows at local sortings such as Stonewall Sorting Club, Tejas Rodeo and Northington Ranch. She also has had experience in team penning and roping. Her owner, Beckie, rides Magoo almost daily on trails at home and around Boerne and has now decided that Magoo can come to the Saddle Light Center to help heal others like she has done for her owner. Magoo is a very kind and gentle horse and she moves very smoothly. We are very thankful that Beckie has decided to share Magoo with us and think she will be a great addition to the team!

Recent Grants Received:

- Alamo Kiwanis Club Charities for operating expenses
- Harvey E. Najim Charitable Foundation for the Saddle Club scholarship fund and program expenses
- Triple-S Steel Stein Family Fund for operating expenses
- EQUUS Foundation for horse care
- San Antonio Area Foundation for horse and barn expenses
- Gordon Hartman Family Foundation for program expenses
- The Big Give brought us \$4,715.00 to compensate for revenue lost due to weather

Thank You



This year Giving Tuesday will take place on **November 28th**. Our goal is to raise \$1,500 to cover de-worming paste for our 12 horses as well as 12 new Cashel Crusader fly masks and 12 new Derby leather halters that are used during therapy sessions. To make a donation, please go to our website www.thesaddlelightcenter.com and use the donate button on our Home Page.

You can honor someone special this holiday season with a gift to Saddle Light

If you would like to make a donation in honor of someone, you can order through our website at <https://thesaddlelightcenter.com/how-to-help/honorary-gift-program/> and they will receive a card notifying them of your gift (we can send cards from an anonymous giver if desired). Please allow at least a week for delivery.



You can also sponsor one of the Saddle Light horses for a year in memory or in honor of someone special. If you would like more information please contact the office directly at 210-651-1954 or slcdirector@sbcglobal.net.

Upcoming Breaks: Thanksgiving Break—Nov. 20 to 24

Christmas Break—Dec. 18 to Jan. 3

Volunteer help still needed for barn chores



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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**Free Matter
for the Blind
&
Disabled**