

Transitions



A Partners for Progress Newsletter

January 2008

Volume 3, Issue 1

RIDER SPOTLIGHT– Charlie Sims



outside throughout the property, Herwald, who has the following here at Field & Fences. to say, “When Charlie first Charlie is a five year old young started in the group he did not man, affected by autism. Upon interact much with the anyone, assessment Charlie’s parents now he is interacting with other Jeffery and Anna Maria Sims riders and volunteers during were looking for an activity that every session.”

Though his parents, who have would increase Charlie’s sensory regulation and increase his observed the following of their socialization with peers and son since Charlie’s initiation to family members. During therapeutic riding, have Charlie’s assessment he was observed the most powerful development in their son: by repeating the last phrases of “Charles responds better to two the person he was speaking to and three step verbal commands and gave no eye contact when and he responds affirmatively to doing so. Charlie craved the repeating of questions has movement the horse had to give decreased. Charlie’s balance and him, however was unable to strength have improved and has regulate his sensory system upon receiving that input. demonstrated an increase in Over the past nine months occupational skills. Charles Charlie has demonstrated drastic works better with peers, improvement, observed by not communicating in three and four only his parents, but also his word sentences and questions NARHA instructor Jamie

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A WARM “THANK YOU” FROM OUR DIRECTOR

I would like to thank all of our clients, volunteers, donors, staff and the community for all of the efforts each of you have made to make the success of PFP happen.

Over the past year PFP has continued to grow and provide services to more than 150 riders each week. We have gathered and evaluated data to validate that we continue to provide the best equine therapy programs available. This only proves what we already know to be true; A quality program partnering riders, experienced therapy horses, volunteers, therapists and instructors that enables our clients to achieve great personal growth.

Once again the PFP donors and community have come to our aid providing the much needed funds and volunteer demands that enables us to continue with our mission. We offer our sincere thanks to all of you who continue your generous support, which keeps this program growing strong.



Sincerely,
Diane Helgeland



partners for progress

(Continued from front page)

and verbalizing his needs to the best of his ability.

Charlie is demonstrating a decrease in his fear of heights and is now contributing to the chores of the home more willingly. Lastly, we believe that from the first day Charles started Partners we began to see a change in his spirit. We could not be more proud of him and thankful to Partners for Progress.”

-Anna Maria and Jeffery Sims

In the short period of nine months, Charlie Sims has made striking improvements in his personal function both in and out of the barn. It is our hope at Partners for Progress, that these improvements will continue to grow and expand, encouraging Charlie to reach beyond the confines of autism and into new and unexplored worlds. We wish only the best to Charlie and his family on their road to success and hope that we can continue to be part of it, here in the barn at Partners for Progress. - Amanda Braden

“Hello & Goodbye”



Many people have noticed the new face in the PFP stalls. Her name is Fiona, or Heart and Soul as she is known in the show ring. Fiona is a gray Appendix Quarter Horse that is 8 years old. She is not that new to many of our participants as, Fiona has been stalled next to our horses at Fields & Fences since she came to

the barn. Fiona has added a new experience for our riders, with her high energy and with her fun personality. She will take part in our hippo therapy, therapeutic power hour and our sports riding program.

On May 1, 1988 a mare by the name of Ginny Hawk, in Appleton, Wisconsin, had a little bay colt name Pale Ryder, also known as Zips Pale Rider. He was successful as a show horse and he had numerous championships and reserve championships! He retired from the show ring in 1995 and joined our team of therapy horses. He has helped many children and adults increase their confidence and self-esteem. At the age of 19, Pale Ryder was retired from our program, and enjoying his retirement! Everyone at Partners For Progress will miss seeing “Grandpa” in the stable, but we know he is in good hands with his new owners that just adore him.



In early June, a family from California purchased our horse Flower for their teenage daughter. We will miss her dearly, but we know she is enjoying her new home where she is being loved and well cared for. -Jamie Herwald



NARHA CONVENTION 2007

Every convention brings new ideas and concepts. Although I have learned some new technical information that is valuable to *me*, I wish to share some information that I feel is valuable to *everyone*. One of the speakers background was speech focused on communication; there is communication between the human speaker and the human receiver as well as communication between interspecies. *Are we speaking the same language?* Our intent does not always equal the message which is being sent. Are we aware of the messages we are sending, and are we aware of the message that are equine helpers are sending to us?

There are three components to a message: the sender, the message and the receiver. Messages can be sent verbally, by body language and by olfactory senses (smell). We are urged to be open and listen to the story that is being told. An example of this happened to me the other day. I was speaking with a father who is new to our program and he asked me why his son was brushing a horse. I started to explain what the brushing tools did for the horse. The father stopped me and said “no, I want to know what it is doing for my son.” So I was able to switch gears and explain how this promotes weight shift and balance, promotes crossing midline with his arms, and isolated and bilateral hand coordination, etc. Then I was able to tell him how it was allowing his son to communicate with the horse.

Brushing allows his son to bond with his horse and his horse with him. By allowing our clients to care for their horse and to be responsible for their care allows the horses that our clients care about them. This speaker reminded me (and I hope it reminds us all) that if we are not getting the response we are hoping for, maybe we need to rephrase our question, our statement, or our body language. And perhaps we need to rephrase our statements and our answers. -Sue Lutz

“I enjoyed the conference very much. I learned many things, but the thing I was most excited to bring home from the conference are ideas that I can use to help engage riders in the ring and help to make riding fun.” -Corbett Ryan



partners for progress

VOLUNTEER NETWORKING

Networking...It's not just for the workplace.

Networking: the exchange of information or services among individuals, groups, or institutions.

Now you might be wondering why the Merriam-Webster definition? Simple. It's all about communication here. Just as the definition states, networking exchanges information. But it's not just for the workplace. We network to help friends or family members find a job, for us to find the right doctor, to get that great babysitter for the kids or to find the perfect painter, plumber or landscaper for our home. Yes, this is all networking. We are communicating with others to find something we need.

So now you are asking what does this have to do with Partners for Progress? Glad you asked. PFP relies heavily on the help of volunteers. It's the backbone of our organization. Treatments can be cancelled if there aren't enough volunteers to help on a given day. It's imperative that we have sufficient volunteers for every rider in the program. So networking can help PFP get volunteers.

Talk about the program to family and friends because you never know who might be interested in volunteering. The neighbor 3 houses down from you might be looking to get involved with something in the community. Or their son or daughter needs to complete community service hours for their school. Your friends' aunt is retired and is looking to do something during the day. Volunteering can fulfill all these needs. It doesn't take a lot of time each week. The time commitment is dependent on how much someone wants to give. And volunteering at PFP does not require horse experience. We can teach you everything you need to know about horses. The only requirement needed to be a volunteer is the desire to help others.

For those of you that are already volunteers, you've seen first hand the rewards of volunteering at PFP. Thank you for your time, smiles and words of encouragement to our riders.

Start networking Partners for Progress and volunteering to those individuals you come in contact with on a daily basis. You never know who you might be helping.

- Debbie Garris

To learn more about volunteering at PFP contact debbie@partnersforprogressnfp.org or call 312.401.1157.

Our Friends From NorthPointe Resources



Riders from NorthPointe Resources show off their "certificates of accomplishments" that were awarded to them by Patty Mozal at the holiday party. Recognition of their numerous achievements brought many smiles!

SAVE THE DATE!

Jan 2- Plop O' Gold Sales Begin



*January 17 (Thursday)
Special Olympic Parent Meeting*



*February 21 (Thursday)
Volunteer*

Appreciation Dinner



*March 15 (Saturday)
Plop O' Gold
Raffle Contest*



*May 3 (Saturday)
"Dream Big " Derby Day*



*June 1 (Sunday)
Head-for-the-Hills Ride-A-Thon*



*June 14 (Saturday)
PFP Horse Show
Elkhorn, WI*



*June 9-13
PFP Sensory Camp*



July is "Support a Horse" Month!



*July 19 (Saturday)
Smiles Horse Show*



*August 11-15
PFP Sensory Camp*



*August 17 (Sunday)
Summerfest Student Horse Show
& Family Day*



*November 1 (Saturday)
Annual Hoe-Down
Barn Dance & Pig Roast*

*Call (847) 226-1300 For further
information on any of these events.*

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With more than 30 items for auction and over 120 raffle baskets, our 3rd Annual Hoe-Down celebration was an amazing success! The barn dance brought us all an opportunity for enjoying time with friends and loved ones, a tasty BBQ dinner and square dancing to LIVE music; What more can we ask for?

Diane gave a heartfelt speech about how this program began, and she conveyed her hopes and dreams for the chance to continue providing a premiere program such as Partners for Progress for assisting those individuals who require this therapeutic treatment.

Contributions to the Leroy Mathison Scholarship Fund reached a new high at this year's event, and left us with an aspiring faith that our mission is possible with the help of all of our wonderful supporters!

WE Hope to See you All Again Next Year!

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"A special thanks to Agi Cibon for her amazing talents"

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“Dream Big” Derby Day ‘07

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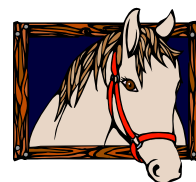
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Margaret Caswell
Mark & Elizabeth Weisbard-
Michael & Kathy Majerowicz
Morton & Diane Cohen
Pauline Wasserman
Peter & Mary Kozel

Richard Krohn
Robert & Sheri Coats
Sowmya Kashyap
Susan Thompson
Terry & Andrew Rato
Theresa Costabile
Wendy & Ron Celesn
William & Christine Brockman

HOE-DOWN IN-KIND

Abby Springs
Adler Planetarium
Advanced Electric
Agents Midwest
Aimee Zeit
Alec Martin
Amanda Braden
Anderson's Chocolate
Anita Schadeck
Ann Ozgowicz
Anthony & Kim
Yarbrough
Aromas Cigars
Art Institute of Chicago
Barb Kochamba
Barbara Mathison
Bernice Kirby
Bonnie Beyersdorf
Brookfield Zoo
Builders Lighting & Design
Café Pyrenees
Canice & Sandy Neary
Carol DuBois
Carriage Hill Kennels
CFO Synergy Inc
Cheesebox
Cherish Melton
(continued next column)

2007 IN-KIND

Ali Pfeiffer
Alyssa Laystrom
Amanda Braden
Ann Margaret Huffman
Barb English
Barbara Mulry
Barbie Taylor
Bettina Faulkner
Caren Goodman
Cherish Melton
Chris Schart
Debbie Garris
Denice Dupre
Dottie Whiteside
Howard Michael
Jamie Herwald
Karen Kusba
Kurt Schmid
Liz Todd
Patty Mozal
Robyn Broughton
Sandy Neary
Sarah Davis
Shelby Dorfman
Sue Lutz



Where possibilities are a reality

A PARTNERS FOR PROGRESS NEWSLETTER

PARTNERS FOR PROGRESS NFP

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web: www.partnersforprogressnfp.org



WISH LIST

EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS!

Our Staff and volunteers continue to tell us what they need to continue our programs and services in the community. We hope you'll take a minute to read over these items and maybe you'll help fulfill a wish or two...

Office

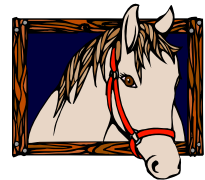
HP 56 black ink cartridges
HP 57 tri-color ink cartridges
Lexmark 17 black ink cartridges
Lexmark 27 color ink cartridges
8.5 x11 PC multi-use paper
Envelopes
Rolls of stamps
Printing services
Pens/Markers

Fundraising

Rider Scholarships
Horse Adoptions
Horse Supporters
Event Sponsors
General Donations

Horse Supply

Neats Foot Oil
Saddle Soap
Equestrian Bath Supplies
Ivory Dish Soap



Therapy

Padded Baseball Bats
Free Weights
Wrist & Ankle Weights
Bosu Ball
Therabands

Volunteers

Special people to assist in all areas of this awesome program!!!