



The Apple Tree

192 Hope Hill Oak Ridge, Missouri 63769
PO Box 154 Jackson, Missouri 63755
Barn Phone: 573 788-2100

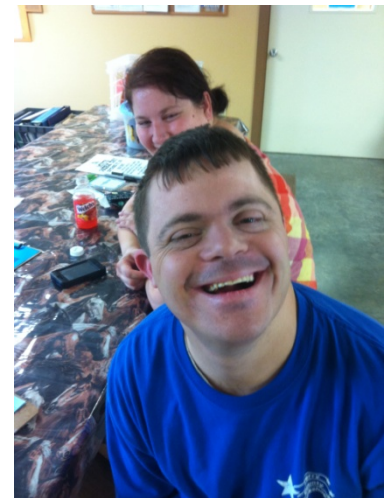
Welcome Fall!

The leaves are turning, the horses are growing a cold weather coat, and lessons are beginning. How wonderful to see our past students returning and welcoming new ones.

Instructor Betsy reports the herd is doing well with a new pony who appears to be a Welsh cross. He is a lovely fellow with a lively step. Beau is a bit of a bully with the big horses, but Nibbles thinks he is quite grand. I think he is just the right size for MVTH.

Also from Ms. Betsy, there was a work day September 24. The barn got a good fall housecleaning...volunteers came and got the place looking really spiffy for our upcoming visitors!

Throughout the summer volunteers have worked behind the scene with the therapy horses keeping them in condition. Thanks from Ms. Betsy go to Hanna Bachman, Rachel Bailey and Zoe Mayfield, pony specialist.



Safety First



Safety is first at MVTH. When you come for lessons, remember to wear shoes with heels and closed toes. Flip-flops are not allowed in the arena. No cell phones in the arena. Long pants are advisable and a jacket or sweatshirt in cool weather. Gloves are optional. Helmets and safety belts are mandatory. Oh! And have a good time--- absolutely imperative!

Spotlight on the Board

This month the spotlight is on Mrs. Linda Farrow (best girl of Mr. Eddie---who keeps both Ms. Linda and the tractor going). Linda and Eddie became interested in MVTH about 10 years ago while it was a “just born” program. Lessons were held at Heuer’s Barn off of Rt. W. They were intrigued by the progress the children were making with equine assisted therapy and knew that a passion was building in their hearts. Linda was born in St. Louis then moved to Cape Girardeau when she was six. Her first term as president of the board is almost over. Still hoping to be very active in MVTH, she and Eddie plan to travel, visit family and make the meetings and activities of their lives. Linda is a member of Kage Homemakers and American Legion Auxillary. Eddie is a VietNam vet and serves as chaplain for the American Legion.



Their number 1 goal for her presidency has been accomplished; heaters for the arena. Now lessons can continue throughout the winter months with horses and riders comfortably warm. Both Eddie and Linda share a dream of beginning “Horses for Heroes” for veterans.

Announcements



Mrs. Mary Ann Mann has been named Program Director for the upcoming year. We are so happy that she has accepted the position. Mary Ann has been a faithful volunteer for years, always with a happy smile and word of encouragement. We look forward to a wonderful - future with Mary Ann to guide us.

Jamie Mayfield, wife of Jeff, mother of Zak and Zoe, daughter of Riki Erlbacher is no longer an Instructor in Training! She passed her test and is now an instructor. Jamie will be teaching on Tuesdays this first session and is looking forward to working and getting to know all the volunteers at MVTH. Congratulations, Jamie. We are so proud of you and your dedication to so many projects at MVTH.

Thank You

Dr. John Rigdon, Eddie Farrow, Betsy Rigdon, Trey Wiginton, Jesse Stewart, Wayne Koehler and his group from Wesley United Methodist church for storm cleanup.

Eddie Farrow for installing the automatic valves on the hoses for herd watering

James Seyer family for mowing the large pasture

Judy Watson for all you do---especially the riding stick horses for the fair parade! So cute.

Patton Creekbottom Trailriders for a fabulous ride to benefit MVTH

Cape County Cowboy Church, benefit trail ride

Lessons

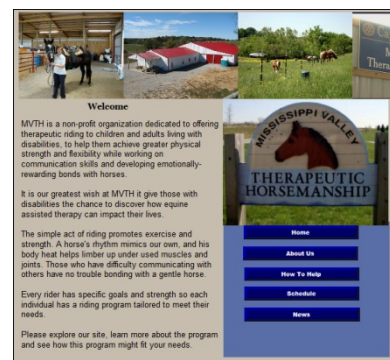
The first session of lessons started the week after the SEMO District Fair. Betsy Rigdon and Jamie Mayfield are teaching days and evenings on Tuesday; Leigh Ann Statler on Wednesdays and Grayson Erlbacher on Thursdays. Each instructor will have a team leader to aid them in all the tasks and chores that make up the lessons. New riders have met with the instructors as have their parents. All of us are excited about the upcoming 8 session lesson block. Remember! ALWAYS CALL THE BARN TO GET THE LATEST NEWS ON LESSON TIMES BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME.

Good Scout

Congratulations to Seth Seivers from Jackson, Mo who completed his Eagle Scout project this summer. He added a new station to the Sensory Trail which was begun by Will Kinder. The new station has three mailbox components and can be taken off the frame for storage when not in use. Seth also constructed 3 structures made from PVC pipe that can be used in classes to encourage riders to reach up and to look up. They resemble mini goalposts. Seth made three different heights to accommodate different horse and rider combinations. If you know Seth and see him, be sure and thank him from the kids and volunteers at MVTH.

Web Site

Check out the MVTH website on your computer. David Bragg has taken it over and updated the look and schedule. For the latest information, check out the happenings by David one of our adult riders and supporters.



SGMO District Fair Parade



It was a beautiful evening for a parade. Eddie and Linda Farrow hitched up the trailer and treated volunteers, instructors and students to a quick ride down Broadway in Cape Girardeau celebrating the opening of the 2011 Fair. All of you were looking like the stars we know you are.

Tour de Cape

Our wonderful friends of the Evening Optimist Club, Cape Girardeau will host the Tour de Cape, fun bicycle ride with benefits going to the scholarship fund they maintain for MVTH. We are so grateful for the support given to us over the past. MVTH will host a refreshment tent at Trail of Tears State Park the day of the ride, Oct. 1, 2011. There will be drinks and cookies for riders and visitors. Students are encouraged to be at the booth to greet and thank these wonderful folks for supporting MVTH. Time is usually 8:00am-1:00pm. Conservation Building Parking Lot, Trail of Tears.



Questions????

Program Director, General Questions: Mary Ann Mann 573-579-4373

Billing and Scholarship: Gail Kamp 573-270-4456

Lesson Schedule: MVTH website and barn phone 573-788-2100

Cancellation of your lesson: Barn phone

Rider/parent Liason: Riki Erlbacher 573-334-2378 riki@erlbachergear.com

Instructors: Betsy Rigdon 573-332-8655 Grayson Erlbacher 573-225-4465

Leigh Ann Statler 573-824-5168 Jamie Mayfield 573-450-8040

The Apple Tree newsletter: Riki Erlbacher

"A horse doesn't care how much you know until he knows how much you care." Pat Parelli