

# The ETP Curry-er

Spring 2016

Equestrian Therapy Program at Fassett Farm

Issue 49

## OUR MISSION

The Equestrian Therapy Program is a 501(c)3 charitable corporation organized to improve the quality of life for the disabled by providing equine facilitated activities and therapies in Lima and the surrounding eleven-county area in Northwest Ohio.

*Visit our web site:*



[www.etpfarm.org](http://www.etpfarm.org)

Email: [etpfarm@etpfarm.org](mailto:etpfarm@etpfarm.org)

Phone: 419-657-2700

Fax: 419-657-2887

**Partnering with:**

*St. Rita's Medical Center  
Lima Memorial Health System*



*Premier Center Member of  
Professional Association of  
Therapeutic Horsemanship  
International.*

## From the Director

Happy Spring to everyone!! The grass is green and growing and the horses are starting to lose their winter coats. We have had a nice winter at the farm. The snow plow did not have to come plow us out one time. I can honestly say we have seen many smiling faces over the winter session and our spring session is off to a great start.

I hope that you were able to see our beautifully decorated Christmas Tree at the Allen County Museum for the Annual Christmas Tree Festival. Cindy Whited, as she does every year, had a beautifully decorated tree. Cindy also heads up our float and participation in the Lima Memorial Day Parade. We hope to see many of your smiling faces that day. Thank You Cindy for all that you do.

We are pleased to announce that we have two new Board Members: Brenda Wilder and Brendon Gideon.

Brenda was born and raised in Columbus, Ohio. She attended the University of Tennessee. She and her husband, Steve, have two children and four grandchildren. Brenda comes to us with a great deal of previous fundraising experience. She was President of Wazoo, a fundraising group at the Columbus Zoo, where she and Steve raised funds for "Zoofari". Brenda also works with national rescue groups for Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. She has been a volunteer with ETP for 14 years. She has worked in class and has been a major help in acquiring live and silent auction items for our fundraisers. Brenda is a great help in assisting us with the planning of these events.

Brendon is from Lima Ohio. He graduated from Shawnee High School and Ohio University. He operates a family manufacturing business in Lima. Brendon and his wife, Morgan, have 3 children: Hannah 6, William 4, and Miles 2. They live in Lima. Brendon has been a great asset to the Program helping with our annual Kentucky Derby Festival. We are so pleased to welcome these two new Board Members.

We also want to announce that Don Fischer has been elected as Board President. Don was born in Lima, where he resides today. He and his wife

*—continued on page two*

## Board of Directors

Don Fischer, President  
Pat Huber, Vice President  
Stephanie Shutt, Secretary  
Connie Graham, Treasurer  
Brendon Gideon  
Ann Fassett  
Susan Hubbell, MD  
Nancy Y. Hoerner  
Jerry Johnson  
David Reed  
Bev Thompson  
Beverly Sweeney  
Brenda Wilder  
Jeannette Wood  
Jill Wurst

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Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writer and not members of The Equestrian Therapy Program, its board or volunteers.

Executive Director... Michele Andrews-Sabol  
Director Emeritus... Ann Fassett  
Program & Volunteer Coordinator... Sarah Potts  
Facility Manager... Sarah Hammack  
Advanced Riding Instructor... Jeannette Wood  
Registered Riding Instructors... Sarah Potts,  
Jennifer Saintignon, Jaymee Donovan,  
Errin Dohm, Nancy Kuck, Sarah Hammack  
Office Staff...Cindy Farrar  
Diane Rogers...Newsletter Editor  
Newsletter Contributors...Sarah Potts, Michele Andrews-Sabol, Bev Thompson, Jeannette Wood, Errin Dohm



Sherry have 4 children and 6 grandchildren. Don was the Director of Sales at Hood Dairy in New England for 10 years, and he is the former owner of Cappie's Sportswear. He currently owns Fischer Investment Rentals and Westview and Northview Laundries. Don serves on many local Boards in the community: The Lima Allen County Chamber of Commerce, Lima Convalescent home and First Federal bank. Don has been a Board Member of ETP since 2012.

We want to share that Sue Gilliland has permanently retired (so she thinks) as our Secretary. Sue started with the Program in 1999. For the past few years, Sue has been semi-retired. She has served as a volunteer and office manager for ETP. We will miss her smiling face and her ability to keep our office environmentally friendly. Sue, we promise to keep up your traditions and training.

I would like to say Thank You to all of our volunteers, donors, staff, Board of Directors, horses, riders and their families. It takes all of you to make sure that disabilities are challenged and new abilities are created. Our community has been very supportive and we truly appreciate you.

We are busy gearing up for a busy summer ahead. The Sugar Street Bar and Grill is holding a golf outing on Friday June 3, 2016 at Hidden Creek Golf Club. All proceeds are to benefit The Equestrian Therapy Program. So all of you golfers out there, please consider coming out that day to support the Program. The event flier can be found on our website and at the farm office. The deadline for entering a team is May 9, 2016.

We are looking forward to our Annual Fun Show in August and our Ride-A-Thon in the fall. We truly hope that you can join us for these two fun events. The fun show is a way for our riders to show their skills and it is a great fun-filled family day. The Ride-A-Thon is one of our major fundraisers and is a truly super event. The only way to truly grasp what our instructors, horses and volunteers do for our riders, is to see our classes in person. Our riders work so hard and benefit so much from what we do. Our staff, volunteers and horses are very dedicated to the mission of the Equestrian Therapy Program.

As you will see from this newsletter, there are many opportunities to come out and volunteer or to see a class. We are very excited about the upcoming sessions. Have a great Spring and early Summer!!!!

## President's Pen



We have so much to share with you. We have had a few changes with the Board Of Directors. Jeannette Wood has been our Board President since 2006. She has recently retired as Board President and will remain as an active board Member.

We will be eternally grateful for the Divine Providence that brought Jeannette and Ann together at the beauty shop way back in 1984. It was the beginning of a beautiful saga with and for The Equestrian Therapy Program.

Jeannette began as our first adult rider with MS, learning and perfecting your riding skills every chance she got. Accepting the

challenge to become an instructor, Jeanette did so with flying colors and began teaching our adult riders who lovingly called her “Sarge”. Jeannette organized our first Ride-A-Thon in 1994 and continued to expand and improve it through the years, even serving as our auctioneer extraordinaire.

In 2001, Jeannette joined our first voting Board of Directors and in 2006 was voted the NARHA (now PATH) Volunteer of the Year and took over the reins as our Board President.

This barely scratches the surface. Jeannette has given her time, talent and treasure to make our Program what it is today. As she retires from this position as President of the Board, thank you is totally inadequate but thank you dear friend for all that you have done for ET!

Cindy Tenwalde has retired after serving ten years on our Board. Cindy has been involved with our Program for 18 years. Her son, Jonathan, began riding with us in 1997 and Cindy joined our Board of Directors in 2006. Cindy has been a valuable liaison with the families of other riders, especially the Wednesday night crew. Always lending a hand through so many Ride-A-Thons and other fundraisers, she has lead us in the right direction

on all things related to the city and Chamber of Commerce.

Cindy, you have been such a valuable asset to our Board and you will be truly missed. We thank you for all that you have done to make The Equestrian Therapy Program a success.

We look forward to great things happening at The Equestrian Therapy Program in the future.



### A Bit of History ETP’s 2006 NARHA Award Winner

Jeannette Wood began her relationship at the equestrian Therapy Program as a rider —not as a volunteer. In 1984, she came to the center in a wheelchair, due to multiple sclerosis, and became the center’s first adult

rider. Five years later, Jeannette was walking without assistive devices and found herself trotting alongside riders as a sidewalker and, eventually, as an instructor.

Today, one of Jeannette’s primary roles is to inspire and motivate. She shares her story about the physical benefits of equine assisted activities by speaking to community groups. Her public speaking has increased the center’s adult rider program by fifty percent. She also inspires and mentors new instructors, sharing with them her passion for equine assisted activities.

Jeannette’s ability to inspire doesn’t stop there. She is a whirlwind of ideas and activities. She has done everything from training the program horses to initiating fundraising events, that have generated funds to improve the barn’s heating and colling systems. If Jeannette is not volunteering in class, she is grooming, tacking, mucking, building new shelves, cleaning and thinking of new ways to raise funds.

“Jeannette is involved in all aspects of our program,” says director Michelle Andrews-Sabol, “We are so very fortunate to have such a vivacious, dedicated and giving person as an intregal part of of our center.”

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## Bouquets

- Deveria Dake** at the Trophy Center for all the nice things she does for ETP
- Cindy Whited** for decorating our beautiful Equestrian Therapy tree for the Christmas Tree Festival, for making the office look so festive and for keeping us spic and span, all while helping with classes
- Matt Langley** for repairing our barn doors
- John Pisle** for our new watering system
- Nancy Kuck** for the baby changing table and pads installed in our main bathroom
- Amanda Animal Hospital** for veterinarian services provided for the barn cats



## Building Blocks of Life

The Equestrian Therapy Program is blessed to have the opportunity to work closely with surrounding organizations with similar missions. Luckily, by partnering with our neighbors we are able to create symbiotic relationships where both parties make gains. Being a part of the goings on at ETP is a great way to work on the basic pieces of independent life – safety and good judgement, completing tasks, and entering unfamiliar environments to learn something new.

Bittersweet at Betty's Farm is a branch of Bittersweet, Inc. based out of Whitehouse, Ohio. Here, persons

with autism find support and many activities to promote their well-being and improvements in life skills.

“Working at ETP builds functional skills, such as following directions, identifying and gathering tools, staying focused on a task, and seeing a task through to completion. These are all vital to enhancing employability potential for the individuals,” says Jenn Slechter (previous Community Outreach Specialist for Bittersweet at Betty's Farm). “I think one of the biggest gains for participants is the confidence that comes with accomplishing new things and seeing their work provide for the enjoyment of others.”

Another group, the Auglaize County Multiple Disabilities Class, utilizes surrounding resources to assist persons from ages 18 to 22 with the transition from school to work environments. These participants travel between 13 different job sites to perform work duties.

“This is a favorite,” says Nancy Mauter (Intervention Specialist at Auglaize County MD). “They [the students] just love it here. The farm gives them the idea there is something for everyone. Some places aren't as aware of disabilities. ETP lets them get hands on and do what anyone else would do. It's good responsibility for them, and ETP is very supportive with the continued learning of social skills.”

As with any volunteer, The Equestrian Therapy Program is grateful to have these groups and individuals. The social skills, work ethic, and independence being built here are important building blocks of success. We are blessed to be a piece of that growth and achievement. The next time you see their smiling faces in the barn, we hope you take a moment to greet them. They are creating a strong foundation, and we are proud to be one of their building blocks!

—Errin Dohm, ETP Instructor



## ETP Wish List

**Grazing Muzzles** (So the heavier horses can still enjoy pasture without putting on too much weight)

Sizes- Horse or Large Horse — For Sale at Equus Now . —PRICE: \$39.95

**CSI Western Saddle Pad** (Special saddle pad to protect horse's back and evenly distribute rider's weight)

CSI Standard Western Flex-Plate Saddle pad —PRICE: \$379.00

**All Purpose or Dressage Saddle** 19-20 inch seat adjustable tree for our male riders.

Please make a donation towards this purchase.

**Vacuum-** Hoover Commercial CH32008 Hush Tone Canister Vacuum, 9 L (our current vacuum cannot keep up)

On Amazon —PRICE: \$210.83

## Behind the Scenes

Behind the scenes at ETP, there is a large group of volunteers that make it possible for us to provide so many hours of therapeutic riding. In 2015, volunteers gave over 3,800 hours to the Program helping provide over 2,100 hours of equine assisted activities. Volunteers give to the Program in many different ways, such as grooming the horses, side-walking with the riders during class, leading the horses during class, being a Horse Pal cleaning stalls on Sundays and holidays, fixing and maintaining facilities, providing janitorial help, helping with fundraisers, and serving on the ETP Board and committees. All of this time is given by so many talented, caring people, making our Program shine. Every year, we recognize volunteers for their years of service from five years to “Lifetime Volunteers” who have stayed with the Program for over twenty years. In 2016, the following volunteers have served for five years: Jessie Callibari, Alicia Buettner, Adam Bastian, Dan Bastian, Sandra Bindel, and Joe Snyder; ten years: Brad Bowman, Janice Schiffer, Erika Damaske, and Cheri Davis; fifteen year: Joy Kantner and Jill Wurst; Lifetime (20 + Years) Kathy Horn and Sue Gilliland. We are grateful for their dedication and service.

Volunteers often do not have more time to give; they simply take the time. One hour a week can give a participant the strength and coordination to walk up a set of stairs, changing that person’s life for the better. We owe a lot to these behind-the-scenes and off-to-the side servants that make our lives better. Thank You!

Youth Appreciation Award - Lima Noon Optimist 2016 - Kendra Webster! This musically talented young lady was nominated by ETP. She has been volunteering at the Farm for nine years, starting as a groomer with her mom when she was eight years old. Congrats to Kendra! Thank you for making time for us!

Volunteer of the Winter Session - Lisa Robinson! Lisa is a great horse leader and side-walker. She makes the kids smile and helps them have the best time while they ride. She helps at the Farm a couple times a week and also lends a hand with the annual Ride-a-thon/Pumpkin Festival. Thank you, Lisa, for making ETP awesome!

For this year’s 2016 Volunteer Party we rolled out the red carpet and recognized all of our fabulous volunteers in real celebrity fashion. We served hors d'oeuvres, gave out fun "Oscar-esque" awards, and the volunteers wrote down what they find “golden” at ETP. Next time you come and visit us at the Farm, please read what they wrote. We get so much when we GIVE!

“What’s Golden Quote” from an Anonymous Volunteer-

“Building relationships with the riders, volunteers, and other parents - seeing our kids be accepted and successful.”

—Sarah Potts

## ETP Wish List

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### **Farrier**

Trim Hooves —PRICE: \$35.00

Trim and Reset Shoes —PRICE: \$80.00

**Rubbermaid Structural Foam Stock Tanks**, 150 gal. Capacity TSC (Tractor Supply)

—PRICE: \$149.99

**Poster Board** – Variety of colors; **Poster Frames** – Variety sized; **Band-Aids** - variety of sizes; **Copy paper** – Letter size  
**Toner Cartridge** for Hewlett Packard LaserJet 1100 printer; **File folders** – Letter Size; **Pens**, **Cordless Drill**; **De-wormer**; **Hay**

**Tribute Grain** (if you feed this brand of grain to your horse(s) please cut out the proof of purchase on the back of the bag and send them to ETP. We get reimbursement for these.



# MEMORIALS, HONORS & DONATIONS

## MEMORIALS

### “Annie Greensprings”

by  
Michele Andrews-Sabol & Gael  
Bourquin

### “Carmy”

by  
Candace Newland

### “Chip”

by  
Michele Andrews-Sabol

### “Harry Potter”

by  
Jan George Schiffer III

### Allison Buehler

by  
Mike & Tana Joy

### Annabelle Bowsher

by  
Dianna J. Fisher

### Beverly Schrock

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Michele Andrews-Sabol & Gael  
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Gaylord & Barbara Cleaves  
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### Dr. John C. Range

by  
Doris Brautigam



# MEMORIALS, HONORS & DONATIONS

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Larry and Diana Durain, Jr.  
Diane L. Newland, Deb Parker

## **Dennis Gardner**

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Gaylord & Barbara Cleaves  
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Simon Daley

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by  
Betsi & Charles Dahan & Julie &  
Ed Malmstrom, The Echols Family

## **Building for the Future Brick**

## **Bob Mack**

by  
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## IN HONOR

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**Nancy Hoerner**

by  
Beverly W. Parker





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- St. Rita's Medical Center  
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22532 Bowsher Road  
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Permit #65

Issue No. 49

Return Service Requested

# Calendar of Events

## Summer Schedule 2016

Monday, June 6th through Thursday, August 4th

<b>Monday</b> —	9:00 10:00 11:00	Adult (Lesson ½ hour Hawk Arena) Youth (Thompson Arena) Youth (Thompson Arena)
<b>Tuesday</b> —	9:30 10:45 1:30 - 4:30	Adults (Thompson Arena) Adults (Thompson Arena) Hippo Therapy (Hawk Arena 6/14 through 8/23)
<b>Wednesday</b> —	4:30 6:00 7:10	Adults (Thompson Arena) Adults (Thompson Arena) Adults (Thompson Arena)
<b>Thursday</b> —	10:00 11:00 4:30, 5:15 6:00	PR - SRMC (Children) (Thompson Arena) PR - SRMC (Children) (Thompson Arena) Youth (Semi Private ½ hour Hawk Arena) Youth (Thompson Arena)
<b>Saturday</b> —	9:30, 10:30 9:30,10:15,11:00	Youth (Thompson Arena) (No Class 7/4) Youth (2 Rider Group Lesson ½ hour Hawk Arena)

**Memorial Day Parade – May 30th Contact office to help decorate or walk**

**Volunteer Orientation/Training Saturday, June 4th from 9:00AM until 11:30 AM**

**Fun Show — Saturday, August 13, 2016**

**Fall Session 2016**

Tuesday, September 6th – Monday, November 7th

**Volunteer Orientation/Training —Saturday, August 27th 9:00AM – 11:30AM**

**Ride-a-thon & Pumpkin Festival – Saturday, October 15th at 9:00AM first ride - Live auction at Noon**

Please Email: [sarah@etpfarm.org](mailto:sarah@etpfarm.org) or call Sarah Potts @ 419-657-2700 to sign-up.  
For additional information about our program and volunteering, please go to our website: [www.etpfarm.org](http://www.etpfarm.org)