



UPWARD TRANSITIONS



A publication of the Locust Lane Riding Center –Volume: 1, Issue 2

MY FAVORITE TIME OF YEAR—by Shelly Pelet, Executive Director

I love Christmas! Images of angels singing and shepherds rejoicing in celebration of the Savior's birth. The whole idea of peace on earth and good will toward men is a beautiful thing. However, Thanksgiving is really my favorite holiday. I'm not sure at which point in my life it moved ahead of Christmas to take the top spot on my list of favorites. Maybe it's because it gets so little acknowledgement. Maybe because it is an underdog of sorts in the holiday world, and I am always compelled to support the underdog. Perhaps it's because for this one day, it is actually cool for everyone to slow down a little bit and take some time to reflect on things for which they are genuinely thankful. The sad thing about it is, if you blink, you have missed it; really! I barely have time to revel in all my wonderful Thanksgiving thoughts before I feel like I am missing the Christmas bandwagon. Don't get me wrong, I still adore Christmas. I am realizing that I have to fight a little bit of bitterness before I can successfully move from Thanksgiving into the Christmas



season. I feel slightly angry that before my Thanksgiving meal is even digested, people are dashing out into the marketplace to score the best deals on Christmas presents. When I think about it, I feel even more angry that society



Upcoming Events:

Saturday, December 15
Christmas Open House

Tuesday, December 18
BACC Leadership Program Graduation

Dec 27-Dec 29
Holiday Horse Camp

"Our Mission is to provide the opportunity for all people, particularly those with special needs, to participate in equestrian activities, to cultivate a deeper love and understanding of horses, to teach horsemanship in a safe, nurturing environment; emphasizing the value of the human-equine relationship in our goal to help promote physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well-being."

has taken one of our most sacred Christian holidays, and turned it into a disturbing display of materialism and self-indulgence. Maybe that is why I like Thanksgiving so much, no one has really found a way to capitalize on it; instead, they just ignore it.

As I work hard to adjust my attitude in the last few days of November, I realize that part of the reason I have such negative feelings is because I am disappointed in our culture for ignoring Thanksgiving as an opportunity to cultivate not only an attitude of gratefulness, but to

reaffirm the importance of having a VISION. The world is so good at capitalizing on religious holidays when it comes to making money. Why not capitalize on religious holidays as an opportunity to cultivate character?

When I was a little girl I learned about the Pilgrims leaving England and coming to the New World in search of religious freedom. They had a vision. They suffered greatly for their cause. They endured unimaginable hardships. They overcame unforeseen obstacles. They fought for what they believed in against insurmountable odds. They never gave up! I don't know about you, but that excites me! When was the last time you heard the story of the Pilgrims? What about other stories of Heroes of the Faith or the resilience of the human spirit; are we hearing them? Are we telling them? Are we living them?

I think it is so very important to have a dream, a purpose, and a vision. It is equally important to encourage others to do the same. I thank God every day for the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people through the ministry of Locust Lane Riding Center.

I thank God every day for the wonderful individuals and groups who surround this organization and support our goals. It is an extraordinary privilege to partner together. Our center is available to many in need through the generosity of our supporters.

In 2013, we look to shine in His glory as we continue to serve those in need and grow in our partnerships! Because of His unspeakable Gift to us, we are compelled not only to share it with others, but to remember to be thankful in the joy of the season.





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In 2012 we have been blessed with many faithful helpers and prayer warriors. A very special thanks to our amazing volunteers and supporters!



Riding camp was awesome! I learned so much about horses and had so much fun. Dandy is such a sweet horse to start learning and Ginger is very pretty and fun to ride. All the horses are beautiful and I never thought I would be able to trot by myself in just one week. Miss Shelly is a great teacher and has the best camp. The kids were fun and I made new friends. I can't wait to do it again.

Amy W.



2012 HOLIDAY CAMP (call for details)

December 27—29th

9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
\$225

2013 WORKSHOP (call for details)

January 13, 2013

Intro to EAP and EAL

10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Helping Professionals \$30

1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

Anyone interested \$15



I love knowing that if I've had a bad day that there will be someone there for me; someone for me to talk to and to just get all the negative energy off my chest. After a long day of school going to the farm to talk to the horses and just being with them helps so much and of course the people are great as well; always there with an open mind and always an open heart. Thank you Shelly and everyone at Locust Lane Riding Center for just being great friends and for just being there. *Holly W.*



GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE!

LESSONS

Individual

\$45 per hour

Group (limit of 4)

\$35 per hour

Holiday Camp (12/27-29)

\$225

Summer Camp (2013)

\$300



"I love going to LLRC because I love spending time with Pepper and learning how to ride. It makes me feel happy." *Jolie*

Thank you for letting me ride here with your 'family'. This farm is very, very fun. Thank you for bringing this farm to life and loving us. You have brought me happiness and peace.

Love, Mackenzie Joy Age 6



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