



# UPWARD TRANSITIONS



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

—by Shelly Pelet, Executive Director

**T**ime passes so quickly. Even after a long, cold winter when it seems like Spring will never come, I look back and think, "Where does it all go?" The minutes turn into hours, the hours turn into days, the days into weeks, the weeks into months, and all of a sudden I am flipping the calendar at the end of another year! It makes my head spin.

I attended the memorial service of a very special friend recently. Experiences like that cause me to reflect on how fleeting time is, and how important it is to make the most of each day. Since time is so precious, and so limited, I should be particularly mindful about what I do with it. There never seems to be enough time to do the things I want to do. So many grand ideas, fueled by the best intentions, fall by the wayside because I run out of time. How can I use this valuable commodity most efficiently and effectively?

To make the most of time, I need to set priorities. Prioritizing can get a little tricky. How can I order a list of things which all seem



equally important? Typically, I attend to the things which are most urgent first. But, is what seems to be most urgent always most *important*? Oftentimes I become controlled by the tyranny of the urgent only to learn that I unwittingly neglected that which



## Upcoming Events:

Saturday, May 11

**Open House Country Fair**

Friday, 5/31—Sunday 6/2

**Brandywine Hospital Strawberry Festival**

Monday, 6/10

**Wounded Warrior Event**

"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."

was *truly* important. I am constantly seeking wisdom in this area.

I read a quote years ago which made an indelible impression; "When I reach the end of my days, a moment or two from now, I must look backward on something more meaningful than the pursuit of houses, and land, and stocks, and bonds. I will consider my earthly life to have been wasted unless I can recall a loving family, a consistent investment in the lives of others, and an earnest attempt to serve the God who made me. Nothing else makes much sense." James Dobson.

Locust Lane Riding Center came into existence with these priorities in mind. It has been our desire to create a place where people of all ages, abilities, social standings, and income levels could come to enjoy the beauty of Creation, the peace of nature, the unconditional love of our Heavenly Father, and the healing experience of interacting with horses. It is our goal to consistently invest our time and resources into the lives of people; to promote healthy individuals, families, and communities.

In our effort to accomplish these goals, we collaborate with other organizations who have a similar vision; to make a difference. I am so thankful for the opportunity to work together with such a quality group of human beings. Every day I am blessed by some new affirmation that our efforts are not in vain. Every day I am blessed to see people giving selflessly of their time for the benefit of someone else. It is not uncommon for one of our young volunteers to offer a helmet, a jacket, or even shoes to a student from our youth program who has forgotten theirs. Yesterday, one of our girls removed her riding boots to give to one of the kids who showed up wearing unsafe footwear.

Another young volunteer offered her own personal riding helmet to one of the students who couldn't find one of ours that fit. I am surrounded by the extraordinary!

As Spring continues to unfold, more and more activity is taking place on the farm. Our Lesson program is in full swing, with lessons being taught every day of the week except Sunday. We are pleased to continue our programs with the Bridge Academy and Community Center (BACC) as well as collaborations with The Camp at the Old Mill,





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(cont. from front page) Eddie's House, The Peacemaker Center, Wounded Warrior Project, The ARC of Chester County, Devereux School, and Chester County Homeschoolers. With the increase in activity, we have an even greater need for volunteers.



As I write this, we are less than two weeks from our Annual Open House Country Fair. This is an important event as we invite friends, family, and people from the community to come out and experience a day of fun on the farm, and provide a little insight into what we do here. One of our goals for the event is to raise money to help support our programs and services. We want to make sure that Equine Assisted Therapies and Equine Assisted Alternative Learning is available to everyone, and that no one is turned away based on ability to pay.

Opportunities will be given to contribute to our Scholarship Fund, which enables limited income students to attend Summer Camp, and to our Adopt a

Horse Program.

I would like to extend a personal invitation to each of you to join us on **Saturday, May 11 from 12-5pm**. This year we are especially blessed



to have the musical talent of Dave Kurtz and his Band, The Cornhuskers. One of the highlights of the day is Jousting by Roundtable Productions. There will be numerous demonstrations and educational presentations as well as Vendors, Pony Rides, Hay Rides, Chicken Barbeque, Bake Sale, Pony Churned Ice Cream, Chinese Auction and more! Please come and enjoy a day of fun on the farm, and help us raise money to support Locust Lane Riding Center.



## OPEN HOUSE & COUNTRY FAIR 2013

SATURDAY, May 11, 2013 12:00pm—5:00pm

375 Coffroath Road, Coatesville, PA 19320 (just off the 30 by-pass and Rt. 340)

Phone: 484-883-1844

The Volunteers and Staff of Locust Lane Riding Center cordially invite you to attend our 4th Annual Open House & Country Fair

### **Featuring:**

- Live Music by Dave Kurtz and The Cornhuskers
- BACC Student Riders
- Jousting by Roundtable Productions
- LLRC Student Quadrille
- Demonstrations by Equine Professionals
- Craft Fair, Chicken Barbeque, Hay Rides, Pony Rides, Games, Bake Sale, Raffles, and **Vendors**



**Come join us for a day of Fun on the Farm and help raise money to support our At-Risk Youth Programs.**

This will be a great advertising opportunity for your business or non-profit! To find out about **vendor spaces** please call Shelly Pelet at 484-883-1844.

## 2013 SUMMER CAMP

**June 17—21**

**June 24—28**

**July 8—12**

**July 22—26**

**August 5—9**

**August 19—23**

Week long camps run from Monday to Friday

9:00am – 3:00pm daily

**Cost: \$300 per week.**

Campers bring a bag lunch.

Water and daily snack will be provided.

Each camper will make a scrapbook to take home.

*Aftercare is available for no extra charge. Please inform us at time of registration if you are in need of this service.*

