

Hope Grows



“Where Love is Shared, Hope Will Grow”

Quarterly Newsletter

Issue No. 1--Spring 2015

**Hope Grows
Therapeutic Riding
Program**
Page 2

**School
Partnerships**
Page 2

**New Instructional
Staff**
Page 3

Summer Camps
Page 3

**New Animal
Friends**
Page 3



Welcome!

Spring is finally around the corner! Here at Hope Grows farm, we are excited to see changes and progress happening! From new programs, to new buildings, to new staff members, we are working hard to make Hope Grows a thriving,

welcoming piece of the farm right in the middle of our community.

This issue, we want to share:

Construction is finished on the new Hope Grows arena, p.1.

With the Hope Grows therapeutic riding program, we will be able to share the world of horseback riding with even more members of our community, p.2.

Hope Grows joins with local high schools to teach students about the world of horse care, page 2.

Introducing the 2015 Hope Grows barn staff, p.3.

Hope Grows Summer camping registration kicks off, p.3.

Welcome to our new animal friends around the Hope Grows barn, page 3.

Our arena construction is complete!

The worst part of winter is waiting until spring to be able to ride! With the completion of our new arena, Hope Grows riders will be able to ride rain or shine...or snow. The spacious arena will be an excellent site for lessons, schooling rides, clinics, and events! We are counting down the days until the arena will open for use in May.





Therapeutic Riding at Hope Grows

"Sit tall in the saddle, hold your head up high. Keep your eyes fixed where the trail meets the sky. Don't be scared, just enjoy the ride."

--Chris Ledoux

Hope Grows is always searching for new ways to contribute to our community. This spring, we are pleased to offer therapeutic riding lessons for riders with physical or behavioral disabilities, who may have a more difficult time learning in a traditional lesson environment. In 1952, Lis Hartel of Denmark took a gold medal in the Olympic Games, despite paralysis from polio. Since then, the physical, sensory, and emotional benefits of horseback riding have drawn people toward horses for the therapeutic benefit. Therapeutic riding uses the teaching of horseback riding skills as the vehicle to help participants reach their own specific therapeutic goals. Therapeutic lessons provide a fun, safe, and interactive environment to help each rider receive the maximum benefit from their time in the barn, and help them learn and grow in their knowledge of the horse world. Therapeutic lessons are unique in that they use volunteer assistants, who help guide the rider in controlling their horse and following the directions of the instructor. With the support of their instructor and volunteer team, as well as specially chosen horses, therapeutic riders are able to reach their best potential as a horseback riding student, and have fun while doing so!

As this new program launches, Hope Grow is looking for both therapeutic riding participants and volunteers! If you are interested in learning more, or know someone who may benefit from participation in our therapeutic riding program, please email our instructor, Katie, at katie@hopegrowsfarm.org.

Partnership with Local High Schools

Hope Grows is partnering with People's Academy High School, by becoming an educational site in the People's Academy Advisory Program. Hope Grows has hosted Advisory students before, including our current barn assistant, Bethany. To help our future Advisory students learn the most from their experience, Bethany and Katie created a curriculum which covers all aspects of horse care--veterinary care, feeding and nutrition, and equine anatomy, to name a few. It is our goal to give our students a deeper, more practical knowledge of the work that goes in to caring for the horses that we love.

KATIE POWELL

In January, Katie moved to Vermont from her home state of West Virginia. She graduated from Bethany College (WV) with a Bachelor's degree in Equine Studies, and competed in hunt seat equitation and endurance racing. Katie is a Level 1 certified instructor with the American Riding Instructor's Association, and a Registered Instructor with the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship. Katie owns a Haflinger mare who will be joining the program later this spring. When she isn't at the barn, Katie enjoys reading, knitting, taking hunter/jumper riding lessons, and exploring her new state of Vermont.

Staff Spotlight**BETHANY GLODGETT**

Bethany was born and raised in Vermont. She began taking lessons in 7th grade at RyderVale Stables in Morrisville. In high school, she interned at WoodSunWinds Natural Horsemanship Farm through the Advisory program at People's Academy. Also through Advisory, she began volunteering during her junior year here at Hope Grows, where she started out working with her favorite horse, Tucker. She came on as a volunteer, but stayed on as a staff member. She cares very deeply for the program, mission, and horses here at Hope Grows.

ABBY MANN

Abby moved to Vermont from North Carolina. She has ridden horses from a young age, and started training them in high school, incorporating natural horsemanship methods into her training. She has met a variety of trainers while living in North Carolina, attending college in Kentucky, and working for professional horse trainer Ken McNabb. In 2012 she became certified with the Certified Horse Association (CHA) and worked as the Horse Program Director at a camp in New Hampshire. She earned her degree in the fall of 2013 from Asbury University in Equine Studies. Since then she has trained horses in Mexico for two months as well as trained yearlings and taught riding lessons at an Arabian stable last fall. She is looking forward to the year ahead and meeting all of you!

DEBBIE HILL

Hello my name is Debbie Hill. I am a native Vermonter and spent my childhood exploring the beautiful hills, valleys, back roads and woods of East Montpelier. Not traveling too far from home, I attended Champlain College in Burlington, studying business and earning a degree in Accounting. After completing college, I spent over 30 years living in Montpelier raising two sons (whom I love to brag about!). During the time I lived in Montpelier, I had the pleasure of managing and overseeing a small association business in Waterbury for 18 years, and then working in Montpelier for 13 years in Human Resources, assisting employees to better understand their benefits. I recently married and live in Wolcott with my husband, Steve. I have enjoyed getting back to country living and having an opportunity to catch a glimpse of a variety of critters that happen to mosey-on-by our property. Whether it's walking in the woods, snow shoeing, cross country or downhill skiing, having a picnic on a beach, canoeing, kayaking, or swimming at a lake, I am the happiest when I am outdoors, communing with nature and all the peace and beauty it has to offer. There is one other thing I just have to mention.... as of March 2015, I became a grandmother! So now one of the times I'm happiest is when I'm holding my grandson Lucas. I joined the Hope Grows Community Farm Program team as Office Manager in February 2014. You may not see me in the arena or mucking the stalls as I'm probably in the office answering the phone or updating a form. I am thrilled to be a part of such a worthwhile endeavor and look forward to working with the Hope Grows team in welcoming and introducing new participants and families to all we offer as we continue to develop and expand our programs. Be sure to stop by the office to say "Hi" on your next visit to the farm.

The air of heaven is that which blows between a horse's ears. --Arabian proverb



A Little Hope Grows History...

Hope Grows Community Farm Program was established in 2010 after several years of prayerful planning and renovations at the barn in Hyde Park. Raymond and Carolyn Chauvin purchased the farm property 25 years ago. It was formerly a privately operated dairy farm, but after the cows were sold, the farm went into a period of rest for several years. In 2008, Raymond and Carolyn learned of Crystal Peaks Youth Ranch in Oregon. This ranch was dedicated to working with youth and families, with its byline "The Ranch of Rescued Dreams," and has become a place of healing and restoration for many. Kim and Troy Meeder, founders of the ranch and its ministry, began offering annual clinics for those who wished to begin similar programs. Carolyn and a couple of friends attended the clinic in May 2010. They returned home inspired by this beautiful and amazing opportunity to start a similar program in the Green Mountains of Vermont.

With this dream in mind, and with great hopes, the program at our Hyde Park Farm is being built, both literally and figuratively!

Summer Camps!



The warmer temperatures have us excited for summer camping season here on the farm! This year, we are offering two camps, each with its own special focus. Our "Horsin' Around" camp, is offered for two different weeks, from July 6-10 and July 20-24. This camp is for campers ages 11 and up, and features our hardworking team of horses! Campers will spend the week learning to care for and ride our beautiful equine companions. Each day of camp will include a group riding lesson. On August 10-14, join us for "Fun on the Farm" camp, an all-inclusive farming experience for younger campers, ages 6-10. Campers will spend the week enjoying everything Hope Grows has to offer-horses, gardening, cooking, crafts, and more! Camps are from 9 am to 2 pm every day. For more information, or to pick up a registration packet, stop by the office at 915 VT 15 E, Hyde Park, VT. Or, send an email to katie@hopegrowsfarm.org.

Dates to Remember!

May 17-23--Spring program break, no lessons.

June 1--Summer camp registrations due.

June 13--Summer Volunteer Orientation.

10 am at Hope Grows office.

Email bethany@hopegrowsfarm.org for more info.

July 6-10--Horsin' Around Summer Camp, ages 11+

July 20-24--Horsin' Around Summer Camp, ages 11+

August 10-14--Fun on the Farm Camp, ages 6-10

Friends on the Farm



Meet Cindy Lopper, the new lop-eared bunny living here in the barn. Cindy moved on to the farm in the first week of March. So far, we have learned that she enjoys having her big bunny ears scratched, and spends most of her days napping or playing with the barn cats. She says stop by any time to say hi!

Your Support is truly Appreciated!

Hope Grows Community Farm Program counts on its donors to help reach our goal of becoming a safe haven for local youth and animals. We can't do this without you!

You Can Help By:

- Making a financial contribution
- Making a contribution of goods or services
- Sponsoring one of our animals.

Hope Grows Community Farm Program

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