



STILL MEADOWS ENRICHMENT CENTER AND CAMP

NEWS FROM THE HILL

VOLUME 11

WINTER 2013

ISSUE 3

LETTER FROM THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KATIE CHITTUM

This year, like years in the past, we have had many volunteer groups at Still Meadows to help us out in so many different ways. One of the first things that is always mentioned is how beautiful the view is, and my response is simply "we're blessed." As another year here comes to a close, the word "blessed" continues to echo in my mind.

We have been blessed with a beautiful summer and a gorgeous fall. We have been blessed with both amazing volunteers and employees who have a heart to serve and go above and beyond for camp, but most importantly, blessed with the support of such a large community who supports "God's camp."

We have been blessed with another successful year of therapeutic riding and two excellent riding instructors, Karen Billhimer and Karen Waller. We saw both new and familiar faces among both volunteers and riders.

We have been blessed with another successful Ride-A-Thon. The weather was absolutely perfect and the views were breathtaking. Patti Clontz and an entire crew of volunteers spent days in preparation for what is one of our biggest fundraisers. What a blessing they were!

Still Meadows has truly been blessed this year. We have persevered through many changes, but our mission stays the same. We are here for our special friends in the community, and they bless us with their laughter, friendship, and outlooks. From all of us here at Still Meadows, I want to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and blessings to you in the New Year.

We wish our special friends, and all the folks in our community, a "BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON" and a "PEACEFUL AND HAPPY 2014!"



TWELFTH ANNUAL HORSEBACK RIDE-A-THON

The 2013 ANNUAL HORSEBACK RIDE-A-THON was held on October 6 under beautiful blue skies with no clouds in sight. The mountains were bright with color and the air had a fall chill that quickly warmed up. Trucks pulling horse trailers began rolling in around 7:00 a.m. They were greeted with the smells of a hearty breakfast of sausage gravy and biscuits, eggs, sausage, fried potatoes, and cinnamon rolls. Coffee and juice rounded out the bountiful breakfast. It was wonderful to hear the cheerful voices and the sounds of horses letting the world know that they had arrived. As in other years, Rev. Donnie Guthrie led an inspiring worship service before the forty-eight riders and horses began an 8.5 or a 15 mile ride up the mountainside. Also, like other years, the horses were amazed to see llamas in a nearby pasture, but they moved forward, not sure what those animals were supposed to be.

When the riders returned, they were again greeted with smells of homemade chili and vegetable beef soup, fresh bread, cornbread, sweet tea, fresh apple cider, and assorted pies. This year a new item was added to the menu, grilled cheese sandwiches. It was a hit! Patti Clontz, Jan Maasch's niece who traveled to Still Meadows from Michigan, organized the kitchen and prepared food all weekend with Rick Smith at the grill. Other volunteers helped with serving food, cleanup, pie making, registration, trail safety and communication, and many more tasks. It certainly "took a village" to make such a fundraiser a successful event. Still Meadows thanks all those who contributed prizes, food, and their time. A total of \$15,000 was raised.



RIDE-A-THON WINNERS

First Place in Pledges

Gary & Joy Halterman

\$3,830

Second Place in Pledges

Katy Coffman

\$2,180

Third Place in Pledges

Krista Suter

\$1,195



GASOLINE RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

Pete DeSmit (\$100.00)

Katie Miller (\$50.00)

Dick Mason (\$25.00)



Would your organization like to hear how Still Meadows began, its history over the past years, its programs, and its vision for the future?

Contact Katie Chittum at 540-833-2072 to make arrangements for her to speak to your group.

Please remember Still Meadows in your estate and will planning so that future generations of special friends will be able to come to this incredible place.

2013 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PICNIC

Still Meadows could not operate without its volunteers. They give hours of their time working with the therapeutic riding program by sidewalking for safety, leading the horses, timing events, encouraging reluctant riders, and providing lessons which improve balance and strength. Summer camps require as much time and commitment. Volunteers help the campers as they plant in the Healing Garden, ride on the hay wagon through the woods, make amazing crafts, sing wildly funny songs, or simply sit to enjoy the peace of the camp. Volunteers provide pies and cakes, gather donated prizes, and help in so many ways with the Ride-a-thon, Annual Auction, and Longaberger Basket Bingo. They cook, clean, supervise, count, carry, serve, drive, move furniture, trim trees, paint, and...the list could go on and on.

Then, we have supporters who use their business contacts and knowledge to lend helping hands to keep Still Meadows focused on our goals and visions. These are folks who understand that the functions of the camp need assistance in other ways, such as financial and professional.

There are so many who deserve to win awards that the decision is always extremely difficult. Much discussion is given to who should be the recipients. The Board of Directors expressed their appreciation to the volunteers and supporters by inviting them to the ANNUAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PICNIC on October 20, 2013 in the Still Meadows' picnic shelter.



The Chester & Nancy Bradfield Family Donor Award presented to County Line Construction.



The Rick & Jane Smith Service Award presented to Glendon "Chick" Wine and Teresa Wine.



The Camp Caring Award presented to Sarah Jerome, accepted by Cathy Fisher.



The Janet Maasch Volunteer of the Year Award presented to Charlsie Miller.

The Hometown Hero Award presented to Allison Smith by Modern Woodmen.



WISH LIST FOR STILL MEADOWS

Generator for Maintenance Building (\$6,700)
Projector for PowerPoint & Slide Presentations
Filtering System for the Well
Gentle Horse, Older Gelding
Animal Feed (Rabbit, Chicken, Goat, Cat, Horse)

LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jodi Haas, Board of Directors President

As many of you know, 2013 has been a year of many changes for Still Meadows. Our Board of Directors has also had some change this past year. We have had to say farewell to Caitlin MacRae, Terry Tucker and James Carter as they left the Board to pursue other adventures. Caitlin was not only one of our longest standing Board members but was also one of our therapeutic riding instructors. We will miss her attention to detail and grant writing skills, but wish her well in her new home in Texas. James Carter was our web site designer and had served on the Board for many years. His British accent was always welcomed at Still Meadows fundraisers as he would take orders for food or help with ticket sales. Terry Tucker began many years ago as a Camp Still Meadows volunteer before joining the Board. She always had her camera on hand and has taken many wonderful pictures of camp, campers and fundraisers. I would like to thank them both for all of their years of service and dedication to Still Meadows.

We have also been fortunate to welcome some new members to our Board of Directors. Pete DeSmit, Bruce Stilwell, and Deb Armentrout have joined the Board and have eagerly jumped right in to help where ever needed. We are still on the lookout for a few more members, if interested please contact me at jodi.haas@campstillmeadows.org Wishing you all a joyous holiday season!



Meet SANTA and enjoy Christmas treats & crafts!

SANTA'S WORKSHOP

(Sponsored by the Girl Scouts and Still Meadows)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2013

**IN SANTA'S WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TREE HOUSE at
STILL MEADOWS**

2:00 -4:00 p.m.

SECOND ANNUAL AUCTION

Our SECOND ANNUAL AUCTION will be held by the Still Meadows Board of Directors on Saturday, November 23, 2013, at the Harrisonburg First Church of the Nazarene. The auction includes a silent auction and a live auction led by auctioneer, Kin Yancey. Businesses and the community donated many wonderful items for both auctions. These donations include a trip to Disney World, golf clubs, ski lift tickets, a game table, a recliner, jewelry, stamping supplies, and much more. We really appreciate all of the businesses who generously support this auction. Because of their support, our special friends can continue to "fly like eagles, if only in their minds."

In addition to the fun and laughter from the auction's "bidding wars", the kitchen will serve delicious food. This wonderful food is organized and provided by the Mennonite Community who has always lent their gracious support to Still Meadows. The menu lists pork tenderloin sandwiches, white beans, spiced apples, broccoli salad, and outstanding pies and cakes. Several of the pies and cakes will be auctioned off to some very lucky people.

The proceeds will be used to continue the dreams of our late founder, Janet Maasch, who envisioned an active camp serving God's special people who have so many obstacles in their lives. It is only with this support that their dreams can, and do, come true. We **thank** all the volunteers and businesses who are involved with this fun and exciting event. We also thank the Harrisonburg First Church of the Nazarene for providing such a lovely facility, and the auctioneer, Kin Yancey, for his professional skills.



VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Still Meadows has been bustling with busy volunteers this fall. The Boy Scouts from Troop #38 spent a weekend spreading wood chips on the paths in "John's Woods.". Folks from the New Life Church repaired the blueberry house and cleaned around the camp. Students from JMU's Sports Clubs & Youth Programs and the JMU Alternative Spring Break cleaned out the buildings and prepared the campgrounds for winter. Many others have volunteered at Still Meadows. It's not an easy task dismantling the tipi, raking the drive, cleaning four large buildings, and more as we prepare for cold weather and snow.

Mark your 2014 calendars...

LONGABERGER BASKET BINGO

March 1, 2014

**Woodmen of the World
Dayton, Virginia**





Still Meadows Enrichment Center and Camp

is a charitable, nonprofit organization created to provide therapeutic activities for children and adults with developmental, intellectual and/or physical challenges in a safe, creative environment located in a beautiful country setting. It is the belief of Still Meadows that nature heals.

We invite school groups to visit on field trips and they will experience the following:

- The only wheelchair accessible tree house in Virginia.
- A six-stall barn with various animals to pet including cats, goats, horses, rabbits and chickens.
- Weather permitting, a hayride through "John's Woods."
- Play equipment in the "Healing Garden", a garden with raised vegetable and flower beds.
- A picnic shelter with handicap accessible bathrooms.
- A playground with a wheelchair accessible swing.



Children of all ages enjoy experiencing various environments within one setting. We do not charge any fees to visit our beautiful facility.

We want to allow children to "fly like eagles, if only in their minds." *Jaret Maasch, Founder*



YES, I want to make a **DONATION** to help support this center for persons with developmental, intellectual, and/or physical disabilities.

____ Donation of \$1,000

____ Donation of \$100

TAX ID# 54-1857340

____ Donation of \$50

____ Donation of \$25

Enclosed is my \$_____ contribution.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

FULL ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

MAIL TO: Still Meadows Enrichment Center and Camp, 11992 Hollar School Road, Linville, Virginia 22834

(All donations are tax deductible)

It's a long way to the ground, people.



Our campers have undiscovered talents.



Fun with the Singers Glen Fire Dept.

YES, I want to help with a SCHOLARSHIP(S)

Because of extensive medical bills and/or other family situations, many families are not able to afford to send their sons or daughters to Still Meadows Enrichment Center and Camp.

Individuals and clubs are encouraged to provide a full or partial scholarship to enable a camper or rider to attend either a one-week camp session or an 8-week therapeutic horseback riding session. Each program also provides the participant's family with much needed respite that allows them to regroup physically and mentally.

Your tax-exempt gift will provide a scholarship to a camper who would otherwise be unable to attend one of our programs.

____ Day Camp (\$200)

Tax ID # 54-1857340

____ Therapeutic Horseback Riding (\$225)

____ Partial Scholarship (Amount: \$_____ Program: _____)

DONOR: _____

PHONE: _____

FULL ADDRESS: _____

MAIL TO: Still Meadows Enrichment Center and Camp, 11992 Hollar School Road, Linville, Virginia 22834

(All Donations are tax deductible.)



Still Meadows Enrichment Center and Camp
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www.campstillmeadows.org

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Permit #36

TO: CURRENT RESIDENT

SPOTLIGHT ON JEFFORY COMBS

Jeffory Combs has been riding at Still Meadows since the beginning of the Therapeutic Riding Program, nine years ago. Jeffory has brain damage as the result of a forceps delivery which caused seizures in 1970. He is the son of Teresa Wine and the grandson of Chick Wine who help so much with the Annual Ride-a-thon. Jeffory has a photographic memory and never forgets anything. He has a deep love of animals, taking care of several including a rabbit, donkeys, llamas, and ducks. Jeffory also loves music, going to the Plains Community Center every Friday night to hear toe-tapping music. One musician even has a special song for Jeffory. In addition to music, Jeffory likes television westerns, and he loves to SHOP. How many men can say that? It is his job to place items in the shopping cart and then to place them on the checkout counter. He also likes the Washington Redskins. Jeffory is able to express his likes and dislikes even though his ability to communicate is limited. We are so pleased that Jeffory has been with Still Meadows for so many years.

Want to clean off your desk? Would you rather not have piles of papers? Sign on to read your newsletter online by going to www.campstillmeadows.org.

