



# Still Meadows Enrichment Center and Camp

## NEWS FROM THE HILL

SPRING, 2015

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 1

### *FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT*

*Jodi Haas*



Spring has arrived at Still Meadows! As with most of you, we are thankful that the days of shoveling and freezing are over for another year. The past winter definitely brought its share of challenges to us...from the loss of our wonderful animals last November to the snow, ice, and freezing temperatures (and water buckets) in February...but we once again are ready to get prepared for a wonderful summer!

As you may have noticed, we missed our winter newsletter, so I will offer a brief recap of last fall. We had multiple schools come visit on field trips. They explored the camp, took hayrides, spent time with the animals, and generally enjoyed themselves! We also finished our last therapeutic riding session before the cold weather set in and had packed houses for our Faith and Light Services.

As to the animal attack that cost us two very special therapy animals, we are fairly certain that the dogs responsible are no longer in the area. I would like to thank all the members of our community who stepped up to help us during that time; the Daily News Record and WHSV for recognizing the importance of Junior (llama) and Pumpkin (lamb), the neighbors who shared information with us, and all the wonderful people who called, emailed, or stopped by to offer their support and condolences. Due to that event, we have installed security cameras on the grounds, and also ask that everyone who visits the camp stops and checks in at the camp office. We will do everything in our power to keep Still Meadows a wonderful and joyful place for all who come to experience what we have to offer.

On to this summer! Come visit, come volunteer, come see the difference you can make in someone's life and, maybe, in your own!



If you want to save paper and printing costs, sign up to receive your newsletter online at [www.campstillmeadows.org](http://www.campstillmeadows.org). We are in the process of upgrading our website, so keep an eye on it.

### 13TH ANNUAL HORSEBACK RIDE-A-THON

The day was a beautiful and crisp fall day on October 5, 2014 at the Willow Springs Farm. It was the day of the THIRTEENTH ANNUAL HORSEBACK RIDE-A-THON directed by the Treasurer, Mary Ellen Chewning. The riders were greeted with a bountiful breakfast of eggs, sausage gravy, biscuits, sausage patties, sweet rolls, and fried potatoes.

Following breakfast, a worship service was led by Rick Altizer from Victory Fellowship Church. Then...SADDLE UP! The riders mounted up and began the trail ride with most riders choosing the 8.5 trail with beautiful fall mountain views.

Upon return, the riders and volunteers enjoyed a lunch of chili, vegetable beef soup, grilled cheese sandwiches, cornbread, sweet tea, mulled cider, delicious fruit pies prepared by ladies from Linville Creek Church of the Brethren, and cookies. Again, the niece of Jan Maasch, Patti Clontz, flew in from Michigan to organize the kitchen and prepare the meals.

Beautiful weather, gorgeous horses, delicious food, hard-working volunteers, inspiring words and scenery...it all combined to provide a wonderful day. Still Meadows thanks all who donated food, prizes, and their time. A total of \$12,000 was raised. This money will be used for Still Meadows buildings and grounds maintenance.



#### RIDE-A-THON WINNERS

##### First Place in Pledges

Gary & Joy Halterman  
\$3,357

##### Second Place in Pledges

Krista Suter  
\$1,315

##### Third Place in Pledges

Ray & Barry Smith  
\$620

##### Raffle Ticket Winners

Thomas Grow (\$100)  
Friend of Still Meadows (\$50)  
Pete DeSmit (\$25)



### LONGABERGER BASKET BINGO

Spring brings the Longaberger Basket Bingo. Bingo was held on March 7, 2015 at the Modern Woodmen on John Wayland Highway in Dayton, Virginia. Twenty bingo games, with a Longaberger basket for each game, were played with David Joseph calling numbers. Our usual excellent pork tenderloin and white beans were served along with hot dogs and chips. Donations of cakes and pies from the Mennonite community rounded out the menu.



Raffled items were a Longaberger basket for those who bought presale tickets, a Leap Pad 2, a 50" television, and a 50/50 drawing.

Again, we thank the many folks who volunteered their time, businesses who donated wonderful door prizes, and friends who prepared the delicious food.



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

**Contact 540-435-7093 or 540-833-2072 to make arrangements for a speaker and a very powerful PowerPoint presentation for your group.**

Still Meadows depends on VOLUNTEERS for many reasons. They are needed for Therapeutic Riding to "side-walk" the horses for safety, to lead the horses through their lessons, and to provide fun activities which promote balance, improve flexibility and muscle strength. Volunteers are needed for summer camp session to make crafts, drive the tractor for hayrides, sing funny songs, or simply sit with a camper who needs a friend. Volunteers mow grass, paint, build structures, bake pies, move furniture, trim trees, and SO MUCH MORE.

Then, we have supporters who use their business contacts and professional expertise to lend a hand to help Still Meadows with our goals and vision. Financial assistance is always needed and appreciated.

On October 19, 2014, the Board of Directors presented awards to outstanding supporters of Still Meadows at the VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PICNIC. This was an extremely difficult decision as there are so many excellent folks who give an incredible amount of time and support to this facility. We LOVE our volunteers!

**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.**



**THE CHESTER & NANCY BRADFELD  
FAMILY DONOR AWARD**

**Neff Lumber Mills**

**THE RICK & JANE SMITH SERVICE  
AWARD**

**Lloyd Hershey**

**THE JANET MAASCH VOLUNTEER OF  
THE YEAR AWARD**

**Mary Ellen Chewning**

**THE CAMP CARING AWARD**

**Jan & Dave Reser**

**THE HOMETOWN HERO AWARD**

**(Provided by Modern Woodmen)**

**Arlene Reid**

## THIRD ANNUAL "BURN THE MORTGAGE" AUCTION

*By Jodie Anderson*

A fun filled evening was enjoyed by many who came out to have a great time and support our third annual fundraiser auction. The evening was filled with fun, delicious food, excitement, and great deals. Still Meadows held its Third Annual Fundraiser Auction on November 8<sup>th</sup> at Muhlenberg Lutheran Church.

The food concessions were spearheaded by Arlene Reid, family members, and volunteers. They served up delicious pork tenderloin sandwiches, hotdogs, chips, white beans, baked apples, broccoli salad, and homemade pies and cakes. Yummy!!! A great big "thank you" goes out to Arlene, her family members, volunteers, Jerry Miller, and bakers from the Mennonite community.

Lots of folks were excited to win one of our numerous door prizes, which were announced every 15 minutes throughout the auction. A lucky 50/50 raffle winner went home with some extra cash in their pocket.

A very special thanks also goes to the board members who worked diligently on securing some really awesome items for the auction. The auction would not have been a success without the tireless efforts of our auction committee: Deb Armentrout, Teresa Wine, and Jodie Anderson. We also give great big "thank you" to all of the businesses that donated items, gift cards, and experiences in support of our auction. Last, but not least, a special "thank you" is sent to everyone who came out in support of Still Meadows.

The purpose of this year's auction was to raise funds to be used towards the mortgage payment of the camp house. The auction helped towards this effort, but we are still in need of funding to help us to continue to fulfill Jan's dream for Still Meadows.

Perhaps you were unable to attend the auction but would like to help towards paying off the mortgage. You may send a check or credit card information to Still Meadows. Our special friends are the benefactors of your generosity. Thank You!



**TEACHERS...put Still Meadows in your plans for spring field trips. Available activities include a hay ride, visits with our animals in the barn, and visits to other areas including a Native American tipi, a wheelchair accessible tree house, Healing Gardens, and a playground. Plan to eat your packed lunches in our picnic shelter with a gorgeous view of the Valley. Handicap bathrooms are available.**





**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

\_\_\_\_\_ 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**  
(Donations are tax deductible TAX ID# 54-1857340)



### **YES, I want to pay for 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 full 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 (\$180)

\_\_\_\_\_ Partial Scholarship (Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_) Program \_\_\_\_\_

DONOR: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

FULL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

—

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(Donations are tax deductible)

**FOR SALE**

**6' Snow Blade with hydraulic angle kit.  
Fits John Deere 300, 400, 500 series  
front end loader**

**Used ONE time...like NEW**

**New ones cost \$3,500-\$4,000. Will sell for  
\$3,000**

**Call Rick Smith for details  
(540-421-2822)**

**SCHOOLS VISIT STILL MEADOWS**

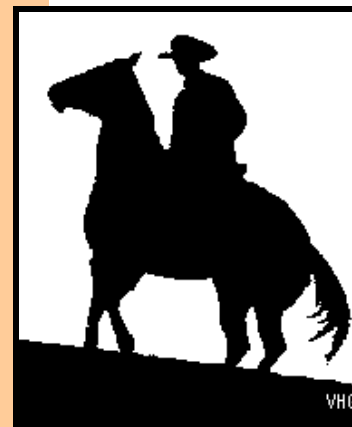
Eight resource classes were scheduled to visit Still Meadows this fall. Unfortunately, three had to be cancelled because of weather and other circumstances. Schools who visited were Rockingham County schools; Turner Ashby High School, East Rock High School, Peak View Elementary School. Also Waterman Elementary School from Harrisonburg brought a group of students to this facility. Those schools whose trips were cancelled were Elkton Middle School and Spotswood High School From Rockingham County and Thomas Harrison Middle School from Harrisonburg. We are hoping that the cancelled schools return in the Spring!

All of the students, staff members and parents had a great time riding on the hay wagon, petting the animals, checking out the gardens, and eating their lunches in the picnic shelter. The elementary groups heard a pumpkin story in the Tipi or in the tree house. Everyone took a pumpkin home. We thank our friends who donated the wonderful pumpkins and gourds!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

**14th Annual HORSEBACK RIDE-A-THON  
Sunday, October 4, 2015  
Willow Spring Farm  
Timberville, Virginia**

**Beautiful autumn trail ride, good food, prizes for  
participating riders, and MORE.**



## WISH LIST FOR STILL MEADOWS

MEDIA PROJECTOR for Presentations and Speaking Engagements

WINDOW EXHAUST FAN for Maintenance Building Attic

A Good, Used, Full-size, 4-wheel drive PICK UP TRUCK

2 Sets of LADDER REINS for Therapeutic Riding

WATER HEATER for Picnic Shelter (contact Rick Smith 540-421-2822)

DONATIONS for Building a Small Picnic Shelter with Handicap Accessible Bathrooms  
Designed by Blue Ridge Architects in John's Woods

VOLUNTEERS of Every Age for Therapeutic Riding and Summer Day Camps

BOARD MEMBERS

SNACKS for summer day camp

ANIMAL FEED, rabbit, cat, horse, chicken



### **REST IN PEACE** *Junior, the llama* *Pumpkin, the lamb*

Sadly, these animal friends were lost this past fall. Trixie, the beautiful horse, died from melanoma, which is common in white horses. The deaths of Junior, our beloved llama, and our disabled lamb, Pumpkin, were caused by a vicious dog attack in November. These animals were very dear to Still Meadows and will be greatly missed.



## 2015 DATES

### Summer Camps

June 15-19  
July 6-10  
July 27-31

### THERAPEUTIC RIDING

Watch our website for any changes.

April 1-May 5  
May 20-June 24

July 8-August 12  
August 26 - September 30

### FAITH AND LIGHT SERVICES AT STILL MEADOWS

Friday, June 5, 6:30 p.m.  
Friday, July 17, 6:30 p.m.  
Friday, August 14, 6:30 p.m.





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11992 Hollar School Road  
Linville, Virginia 22834  
Phone: 540-833-2072  
Email: [info@campstillmeadows.org](mailto:info@campstillmeadows.org)  
[www.campstillmeadows.org](http://www.campstillmeadows.org)

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

HARRISONBURG, VA 22801

Permit #36

**TO: CURRENT RESIDENT**

## Meet MARY JEAN KEMPFER

Our Grounds Caretaker, Jonathan Cannone, has made several changes in his life. He has acquired a new wife, Meredith, and has left Still Meadows for a full-time job with Pleasant View Homes. Our newest addition to our staff is Mary Jean Kempfer who is responsible for feeding and caring for the animals. Mary Jean operates Rainy Day Stables in the Linville area, and while she takes excellent care of the Still Meadows animals, she also tends to thirteen horses at her stables. Mary Jean also teaches riding lessons and raises foals. She is a graduate of the Blue Ridge Community College Veterinarian Technician Program. She is married with a teen daughter and lives with various dogs and cats.

Mary Jean's history with Still Meadows goes back a few years when she helped with the fundraising for the construction of a wheelchair accessible tree house by hosting a retirement party for the family's pony. Her daughter was the youngest rider in the Ride-a-Thon at the age of two, and pledges of \$1,000 were donated in recognition of her participation.

## STILL MEADOWS ENRICHMENT CENTER AND CAMP

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Jodi Haas**  
President

**Jodie Anderson**  
Vice President

**Mary Ellen Chewning**  
Treasurer

**Jordan Fisher**  
Director

**Deb Armentrout**  
Director

**Jerry Miller**  
Director

**Bruce Stilwell**  
Director

**Pete DeSmit**  
Director

**Teresa Wine**  
Director

### STAFF

**Diana Umbel**  
Operations Manager

**Mary Jean Kempfer**  
Animal Caretaker





