



2017 Spring Issue

Volume 12, Issue 2

a newsletter for friends of GMTRC

Springtime is therapeutic!



As comedian Robin Williams once quipped, "Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'" At Greystone Manor Therapeutic Riding Center, we agree!

Our center is surrounded by nature's newness. Bright green grass delights our grazing herd, and pastel flowers grace our refreshed bed near the parking lot. Riders ask, "Are we going outside?" before their warmups even begin. Instructors and volunteers delight at the motivation warmer weather brings to GMTRC's therapeutic riding participants, as they strive to achieve new skills and goals in the saddle.

GMTRC's staff is blessed by many fresh faces this spring. We're thrilled to welcome a crop of new volunteers and want to introduce you to three terrific new staff members:

- Liz Bleacher recently joined GMTRC as our delightful new Volunteer Coordinator. Learn more about Liz on page 3.
- Bobbi Schmid, a senior GMTRC volunteer with excellent horse leader skills, has teamed up with Liz in a newly created position as our Assistant to the Volunteer Coordinator.
- Bobbie Sue Landis brings a lifetime of horse experience to the barn as our new afternoon Barn Assistant. Bobbie Sue, who is currently working toward a Master's in Counseling at Lancaster Bible College, hopes to pursue a career in equine-assisted therapies for people with emotional and social needs.

Happy spring and summer, everyone!



In this issue:

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- From the Volunteer Coordinator—Liz
- Equine News—Barn Manager, Lisa
- Community Outreach—Heather
- From the President of the Board—Tom O'Brien



GMTRC is excited to host some fun new events at the barn this summer!

In May, the School District of Lancaster's Multiple Disabilities classrooms will take a field trip to experience a day at the stable. Children in elementary through high school classes will enjoy a fun opportunity to learn about and interact with our horses.

We will host campers from Aaron's Acres again this summer, on several days in June and August. This is more than double the number of visits Aaron's Acres campers made in 2016. I guess they like it here! Campers will get a chance to ride a horse and participate in horse-related activities.

We also have exciting events planned for our GMTRC participants. In May we offered a free hour-long opportunity for children and adults to try out one of our horsemanship clinics. Participants joined in grooming, leading and learning about horses.

Our horsemanship clinics offer a fun new way to experience our horses. Participants gain teamwork skills, horse knowledge and confidence working with and around horses.

To find out more about our clinics for children and adults, including dates, fees and registration, check your "Dates to Remember" card or contact me at 717-615-9222 or lead.instructor.gmtrc@gmail.com.

Horsemanship Clinics make learning fun!

GMTRC's certified instructors and trained volunteers ensure program excellence.

With volunteer help, individuals with special needs can become increasingly mobile, learn a degree of control over a responsive animal, and grow in self-esteem.



A special bond develops between our horses, volunteers, and students.



ANNOUNCING GMTRC'S 2017 HORSE SHOW

"Greystone Knights"

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, Sept. 16, when GMTRC's staff, volunteers, participants, and their families and friends will gather at the barn to celebrate our riders' accomplishments in the saddle and delight in an atmosphere of riding in medieval times!

Opportunities for participation, volunteering, sponsorship, and advertising will be available soon.

Hope to see you there!

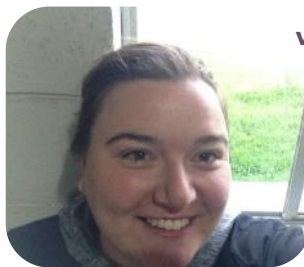
Hi! I'm **Liz Bleacher, the new Volunteer Coordinator**. I am originally from Washington state, where I grew up in National Parks (My dad is a ranger.). I have been in Pennsylvania for almost 10 years, and I am loving it. I have worked as a volunteer or with volunteers most of my life and love sharing my excitement for nonprofits. I am also the Assistant Program Coordinator at Leadership York and look forward to sharing my experience with GMTRC.

Now down to business. Volunteers keep GMTRC running smoothly, and helping them stay educated and safe is an important part of what I do. We offer orientations for new volunteers 1 to 2:15 p.m. the first Saturday of every month. If you know anyone who might like to help us serve our community, please invite them to contact me and attend an orientation.

Current volunteers are invited to attend our training sessions, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month. We cover a new topic each month: leading, tacking, horse behavior, safety, horse games and many more. I am always interested in areas where the volunteers feel they need more training and welcome suggestions to help with continuing education.

I am quickly learning the program and working on remembering the names of participants, volunteers and horses. Thank you for all of your support, and I am excited to see what we will accomplish in the upcoming sessions!

Liz Bleacher
vol.coordinator.gmtrc@gmail.com
717-203-7388



Liz and Bobbi are ready for volunteers to "spring" into action at GMTRC!



Equine News *Barn Mgr, Lisa Carvell*

ARE YOU A MATCHMAKER?

GMTRC seeks a LARGE PROGRAM HORSE

After two years of searching far and wide for a "second Sampson", our staff feels like a group of unsuccessful dating candidates on *match.com*. We thought we'd ask YOU to help us keep an eye out for a special large horse suited to therapeutic riding. Our desired equine will be: 100% sound and healthy, bombproof, 15-16hh, ~10-17 years of age with a solid work history, able to carry 200lbs, and all-around well mannered. Contact any staff or board member, or email Linda, leidens@comcast.net, if you find a match!



Sam and Liz enjoy a trail ride.

Community Outreach Coordinator

Heather Mitterer

GMTRC continues to enjoy wonderful community partnerships! We appreciate the following program friends, who recently have helped promote GMTRC in Lancaster County and beyond:

- **Lititz AMBUCS** welcomed me as the January program speaker.
- **Pack 134 Tiger Den Scouts** visited the barn to earn a badge and learn about a community service organization.
- I attended **Occupational Development Center's** annual chicken barbecue. We appreciate ODC's team, which helps us weekly with chores around the barn!
- A team from **Excentia** will visit us again in May.

Please visit our website, www.greystonemanortrc.org, where updated bios and photos will introduce you to our new staff members, and opportunities for program involvement abound!

Welcome to GMTRC!



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Please send newsletter comments to:
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Have you liked
us on Facebook?
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Greystone Manor Therapeutic Riding Center is a non-profit organization with 501(c)(3) status.

From the Board of Directors—Tom O'Brien

We are always thankful for the multitude of volunteers who assist GMTRC's staff and Board of Directors in and outside of the barn. We are very fortunate that so many of these volunteers also solicit or donate funds to GMTRC. This collaborative effort of time, money and enthusiasm gives us essential resources to support our program and enrich the lives of our participants.

I'd like to suggest two creative ways that you may provide more dollars to GMTRC, without contributing additional funds from your personal savings.

1) Corporate or matching funds from your employer. Companies of all sizes have programs that will match a percentage of your donation to your favorite cause or nonprofit organization. The amount varies, but in some cases the match is up to 100 percent. Please ask your employer or human resources officer if they have such a program and how you can participate.

2) The annual United Way fund drive. Many of you, or your family members, already actively give to this fall fundraising campaign. Did you know that you can designate GMTRC as a recipient of your United Way donation? Please help us by designating 1 to 100 percent of your annual United Way pledge to GMTRC.

Thank you for considering adding a bonus to your GMTRC generosity this year!

Appreciatively, *Tom*

Tom O'Brien, President
GMTRC Board of Directors
Email:
president.gmtrc@gmail.com

*Community friends
help build the network
of opportunities for
individuals with special
needs.*



Our Mission, Vision & Core Values

Mission

To enhance the lives of individuals with special needs through equine assisted activities.

Vision

To grow as a diverse equine assisted activities program of distinction that is valued in our community and beyond.

Core Values

Dignity—We treat everyone in our Greystone Manor TRC family with the highest level of dignity and respect everyone's contribution to the program—whether large or small.

Safety—We promise to "do no harm" either therapeutically or environmentally.

Professionalism—We utilize trained instructors and volunteers to ensure program excellence.

Community—We cooperatively work with members of the community to build upon the network of opportunities available for individuals with special needs.

Transparency—We operate in an environment of trust and integrity offering full disclosure of our program.

Health and Happiness—We strive to provide a fun environment for all participants in conjunction with a focus on the health and happiness of our human and equine stakeholders.