The Hitching Post

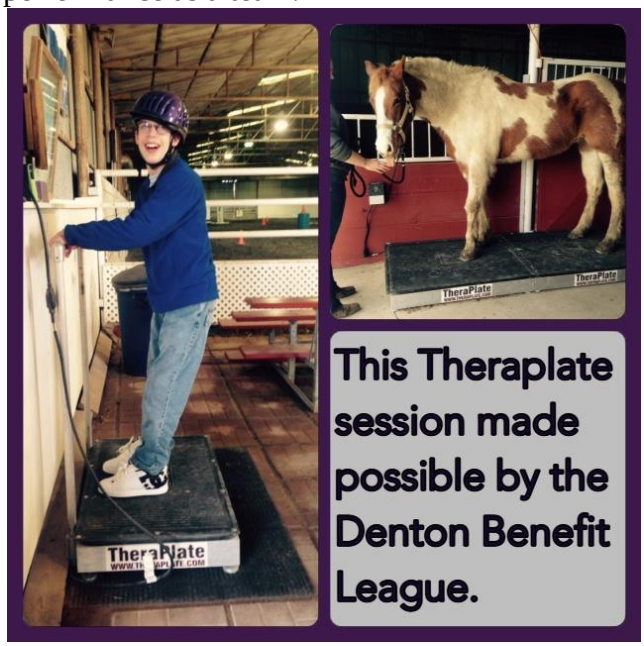
April 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **April 16 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.** Argyle Chamber of Commerce Mixer at the Point Bank on Hwy 377 in Argyle – Free Food & Beverages – Mixer Highlights Riding Unlimited.
- **May 18 – Golf Tournament in Denton … Volunteers needed.** We benefit by receiving a portion of the profits.
- **May 27 – June 27 – Summer Session.**

HORSE HIGHLIGHT:

We are helping many of our horses perform better in classes and at competitions by giving them treatments on the Theraplate stand. The treatments also allow the horses to feel good … something like humans getting a massage. Also, we have a smaller Theraplate for use by humans that is helping our riders. Therefore, the horses and our riders are feeling better improving their performance as a team.



Ryan Williams and Fancy

Questions: *If you have a question or concern you would like answered about the program, our horses or any other relevant subject contact the RU Staff by telephone, email or in person and we will find an answer.*

GETTING TO KNOW YOU:

Demi Prentiss – RU's Volunteer Coordinator:

Demi started working as a volunteer at Riding Unlimited in September, 2014, and in January 2015 took the position of Volunteer Coordinator. Spring volunteer training brought 18 new volunteers into the program, and classes have been added to accommodate additional riders.

Demi and her husband, Paul, moved to Denton on 2007. Prior to joining Riding Unlimited, Demi has worked with church congregations and ministries in Fort Worth and Denton. She brings training in organizational, leadership, and fund development. She is a coach for leaders and small groups, focused on improving non-profits' effectiveness. She is also serving as an endowment management specialist for the Episcopal Church Foundation, a non-profit that offers endowment services to congregations and other Episcopal groups. She and her husband have worked together in owning and managing community newspapers and in the professional theatre.

A graduate of Harvard University, Demi also holds a master's degree in theological studies. She has worked with volunteers throughout her career. "I'm so excited to be partnering with Riding Unlimited's amazing volunteers. They are the life-blood of our program, and their hard work helps turn disabilities into possibilities, one ride at a time."

FACILITIES:

Two future Eagle Scouts, Brandon and Cameron Corey, are doing two projects at the Ranch. One is redoing the exterior of the vacant office near the arena and the other is doing the interior of that office. This will be a wonderful benefit for future programs within our organization and possibilities for seminars, meetings held by us or other organizations. The exterior of the building is looking so much better, siding has been replaced,

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drip flashing has been installed and painting has been completed. The interior project is making good progress … there will be new flooring, new wallboards, and the walls will be painted. We are looking forward to the "like new" facility. We really appreciate Brandon and Cameron selecting us for their Eagle Scout project.

Support Riding Unlimited by: Shopping on smile.amazon.com – Select Riding Unlimited, Inc as your charitable organization (Amazon will remember your selection after one time) then shop and we will receive a portion of the purchase price.

EQUESTRIAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS:

Special Olympics were held on March 28th at Valhalla Stables in Aubrey hosted by Born 2 Be. Our riders all received ribbons. Our participants were: Eloise Bourns, Jason Franks, Alainne Farrell, Kyle Hughes and Tanner Lowery. Our horses were: Mr. Big, Bonanza, and Regal.

Our riders, staff and horses want to give all the volunteers the biggest "Thank You" we can find. Without your help participation in events would be extremely difficult. This year's great volunteers for Special Olympics were: Kurt Breyfogle, Nicole Griffin, Campbell John, Kris Kenney, Elizabeth Richardson and Terry Williams. Behind the scene volunteers are genuinely appreciated: Terry Williams (Board President), Deb Perkins (Barn Manager), Karen Benson, Andrea Barefield, Emily Liechty (Our instructors) and Demi Prentiss (Volunteer Coordinator) – the preparation done by these individuals and their support at Special Olympics was **superb**!

Our team composed of riders, horses, volunteers and staff represented Riding Unlimited in an outstanding manner.

Riding Unlimited 2015 Special Olympics Team

Instructors – Karen Benson, Emily Liechty & Andrea Barefield

Kyle Hughes on Mr. Big with Kurt Breyfogle, Terry Williams, Andrea Barefield and Elizabeth Richardson

Jason Franks on Regal with Kris Kenney and Nicole Griffin

Eloise Bourns on Bonanza with Karen Benson and Campbell John