

Willow Creek Ranch, Inc. Therapeutic Riding Center – *Celebrating our 10-year Anniversary*

September/October 2017 Newsletter

From Mukwonago, Wisconsin

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Volunteers

Welcome to new volunteer Jenny, who attends UW-Whitewater.

Although the riding season is winding down because of weather and diminishing daylight hours, there is still a need for volunteers. With the new Bloom360 school group and others who participate in WCR programs, sidewalkers and horse leaders are needed. Some of our loyal volunteers have returned to school and afterschool activities which limit their availability. In addition, there are many other ways to help: Ranch chores, animal care, egg-collection, administrative/office work, trail cleaning and tree clearing for indoor riding arena.

Introducing a Sweet New Program Horse



KC was born on 4/9/2004 in Canton, North Carolina, at an Appaloosa breeder's farm and his color is called a Leopard Appaloosa. Not too much is known about KC's life until he was two years old when he was placed at Midwest Horse Welfare Foundation rescue in Rosholt, Wisconsin. First, he was adopted by a family who had him for a little less than 5 years, and then they returned him to the rescue when they could no longer care for him.

Don and Mary Harvey, who live in Rochester, Wisconsin, adopted him in September of 2011 when he was seven years old, and he has been with them ever since. They have used KC mostly as a trail horse, but he has also done local horse shows at West 20 and at the Walworth County Fairgrounds. He did very well in many of his classes.

In July of this year, Mary brought KC to WCR to be used for the therapeutic riding program and mental health services. Originally named Sully, his WCR name became KC in honor of the generous donation from the Knights of Columbus. He has been at WCR since July, and has adapted well to his new job. He is having a lot of fun and is making new friends, both horse and human!

Anniversary Rodeo Event:

On Saturday, August 26, 2017, WCR held its Anniversary Rodeo; our riders had a chance to show off their skills to family and friends. The riders celebrated by playing "birthday" party themed games while riding their horse. Did you see them catch ducks in the Duck Pond, have an egg and spoon relay race, or ride their horse through the Twister game? Each rider was given a WCR Rodeo Anniversary Trophy, 2007-2017! There was lots of wonderful concession stand food and cake for everyone. Thank you to all who generously donated their treats and time to help make it a great day as we celebrated this year's event to mark WCR's 10 year anniversary!

Ranch T-shirts are here! Show your WCR support, and wear it with pride! They make a great gift.

There are a variety of t-shirts for sale in the cabin.

Please call or text Jennifer in advance to reserve your size and pick up.

Youth\$10.00
Colors: Maroon, Blue, or Pink

Youth\$12.00
Long Sleeve, Medium only

Adult Performance Blend....\$15.00
Round Neck

Adult Performance Blend\$15.00
V-Neck



Lights for the Outdoor Arena

As we all know, the days are getting shorter, and the weather is starting to feel like fall. But, now we can see when the sun goes down! Thanks to Mark for purchasing lights for the outdoor arena and WCR for purchasing the treated poles and electrical wire. Although our season is coming to a close, our riders will be able to continue to ride past sunset! A grateful thanks to Matt for the use of his skid loader to dig the post holes, Brian, Callie, Jennifer, and Jordan for helping to put them up. When you see our 'construction crew,' please say "thank you" for their hard work and efforts to provide outdoor lighting in the riding arena.

Indoor Arena Building Update

We ran into some disruption on original building plans at the outdoor arena area site due to the Wisconsin DNR designating it as a no-building zone due to proximity to the ponds. We are moving forward with another location. Thank you so much to Don Harvey who has volunteered to be the project manager and is working with building contractor proposals, utilities and other plans. We have had many generous donors, including the Knights of Columbus \$100,000 gift, contribute to our building fund and it is close to our goal! Thank you to all of you who support WCR with your gifts and time.

Bloom360 Learning Community partnership

We are pleased to announce that our partnership with Bloom360 Learning Community has now included weekly visits by their students – whom they identify as "learners." Some of their learners are discovering all the things to do at WCR – chores, activities, animals, enjoying nature and more. Some of their learners are taking therapeutic horsemanship lessons. Bloom360 is located a few miles from WCR at the historic Stone School. Check out their website for more information: www.Bloom360.org.

Where Life Reins...Miracles Happen

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