



"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." ~Anne Frank~



STAR VOLUNTEER E-NEWS

Hello STAR Friends!!



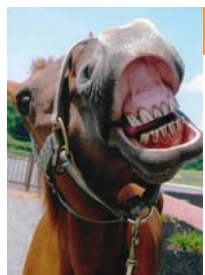
The Winter Session is moving along nicely and is just about half over. Preparation for the Spring Session is starting very soon so be thinking about your schedules and the days & times you would like to volunteer. Thanks for sticking with us during the cold snap. We really appreciate it!!!

STAR Session Sign-Up Changes

STAR is always looking for ways to increase efficiency. With that being said, our session sign-up sheets for returning volunteers are being revised. With ever-changing schedules, it can be difficult to ensure a specific day and time for each volunteer, which became evident this past session. Previously, our sign-up sheets had columns that asked for "Days Requested" and "Times Requested". These columns will be changed to "**All Possible Days**", "**All Possible Times**", and "**Impossible**." When signing up, please make sure to list all of the days and times that you are available; also list any days/times that absolutely will not work for you. We are hoping that these changes will provide a little more flexibility when placing volunteers in class. Thanks!!

Paperwork Updates!!

Some of you may have received your volunteer paperwork from your instructor. These forms must be updated once a year. Please remember to return them to your instructor after they have been updated. Also, for those under the age of 18, you must have a parent sign off on the Updated Forms Record (last page). STAR will be going through a NARHA Reaccreditation process this year and all of our current volunteer forms must be updated and accurate. Thanks for your help!



Horse Highlights

In the very near future, STAR will be bringing in two new horses; Kandy and Dakota. Kandy, a grey Percheron mare, is coming from La Follette. She is 16 years old and stands almost 17 hands! Kandy has Carriage Driving and Dressage experience. Dakota, a bay Thoroughbred gelding stands 16 hands and is 14 years old. He has Hunter experience and is coming from Maryville. Dakota looks a bit like Tucker!. Both horses will be staying in the "R" Field while adjusting to their new home.

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Training And Session Information

- Spring Session sign-ups will begin this week through the end of the session. Please remember to sign-up!!
- Horse Leaders Workshop, Saturday, Feb. 20, 10a.m.-12p.m.
- Winter Session ends February 27, 2010.
- Lesson Vol Training is Sun., Feb. 28, 1:30-5:30.
- Junior Vol Training is Mon. March 1st from 5:00p.m. to 7:00p.m.
- Spring Session Orientation week starts March 6th and classes start March 13th.



Volunteer Tips!

- Horse Leaders: When leading the horses, please remember to hold the lead rope **at least** 6 inches down from the snap (right hand). We are still seeing hands directly on the snap right under the horses' heads. They don't like it!!
- Junior Vols: Please remember to sign in on the **white** sheets, **not** the **orange** ones. Thanks!

IN THE SPOTLIGHT!



Laura Osgood has been volunteering at STAR since June of 2008 and continues to volunteer in multiple capacities. Not only is she a Lesson Volunteer and Horse Leader, she also volunteers as a Barn Helper and helps with special events, fundraising, and community outreach. Laura learned about STAR when becoming a member of the Optimist Club in 2004. In the summer of 2008, her son Zachary started driving, but didn't want to get a job just yet. So, the condition was that he would do volunteer work in the community instead. Zach wanted to do something with animals, so Laura gave him the choice of STAR or the Humane Society. Zach chose STAR. Laura and Zach began volunteering that summer and Laura "got hooked!" Thank you Laura! We are so glad you found STAR!!



