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Majestic Hills Ranch for Children & Military Veterans





# 2017 Review in Pictures!















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### Board of Directors 2017

#### **Executives**

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Larry Johnson Executive Director, HOH Program

#### **Instructors**

Brenda Steinhauer Both Programs Jackie Buie Both Programs

Laura Peterson Children's Program

**Teaching Assistants** 

#### Gay Uttenhove Sue Anderson

Majestic Hills Ranch is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit that serves riders in the seven county region around Minneapolis & St. Paul, MN. MHR does not discriminate against anyone, rider or volunteer, due to race, religion, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, or political beliefs. Riders need to meet program criteria and have a physician's order.

# MHR WILL MISS THESE BOARD MEMBERS

**Wayne Mertz** – Retired from the Board of Majestic Hills Ranch October 31, 2017 Owner-Alternative Graphics Printing Co. Wayne is our graphics person and has been invaluable in the promotion of the ranch through generously donating very costly printed materials over the years. Wayne has been a Board Member of Majestic Hills Ranch the longest (almost since its inception) and has been involved in multiple fundraising programs such as Fairview University of Minnesota Hospital and Minneapolis Children's Hospital. Wayne always brought new and fresh ideas to promote our events and he did so with the children and veterans we serve always foremost in his mind. He has a grandchild who suffers from an auto-immune disease. Wayne we all wish you the very best in the next step in your life's journey and we can't thank you enough for your wonderful support!

## Dr. Mary Lee Enfield Ph.D. – Passed away September 30, 2017.

After graduating from college she worked as a social worker in Fargo, then taught school at the Red Lake Indian Reservation. She was a teacher in the Bloomington school system and later became the Coordinator for learning disabilities there. She received her Master's and Doctorate degrees from the University of Minnesota in Educational Psychology. She was a consultant to the Department of Learning Disabilities State Department of Special Education in the area of in-service programs for Minnesota. She was an instructor at the University of Minnesota, and she was active in the Orten Society. She received the Minnesota Special Educator of the Year award in 1972. She also served on the Concordia Board of Regents from 1980-1988. Mary Lee traveled extensively to present her reading program, Project Read, in workshops throughout the U.S. Her multi-sensory method of reading has touched the lives of many children. Project Read is still succeeding to give children and parents hope. Mary Lee was a supportive Board Member for several years at Majestic Hills Ranch and believed so much in what we do and who we served and will be missed by all.



# A YEAR IN REVIEW

2017 was a year of excitement (it is our 20th anniversary of beginning this program!) and of sorry (we lost a long term board member that had given much to the programs over the years.) Looking back over 2017 we had these exciting events:

- Brenda and Jackie went in early spring for Brenda's PATH certification testing and for Jackie to begin the testing process.
- Classes began in the spring with good weather, but as every year we had days that were fair and foul.
- During the spring, one of the privately owned horses boarding at our stables came down with symptoms of Strangles. We separated that horse and began the process of quarantining the ranch. Over the next couple of week, 5 horses came down with symptoms and were separated from the herd, we turned away several volunteers that worked closely with horses, and implemented strict rules to contain the illness. Over the course of the summer we battled the illness, but all horses pulled through and were healthy.
- We added Olaf and Sienna as program horses and retired Connor. He found a good family that will enjoy lots of trail rides.
- After 20 years of working in the office of ASI / Teachers On Call, Inc. (Thank you to Kim Howard for giving us some space over these years!) we finally got our own office space! Located just down the street from Teachers On Call, we moved in July to 7850 Metro Parkway, Suite 100. It is big enough for 2 desks (Larry and a shared desk), a conference table with chairs, and a back storage room. While it is tight, it is nice to have a place called home!

# 2018 PROGRAM GOALS

In 2018 we are looking forward to some new changes to the programs as well as changes to our facility. This will be exciting, but since we are expecting everything to last a long time, we are going to take this slow and easy.

- We will work on filling our class schedule not only with returning riders, but we hope to fill all openings with those on our waiting list. We currently have almost 20 people on the list, but we hope that by the time classes begin in May we will have many less.
- We are excited to have the various Veteran groups back in 2018. Jackie will be working towards her certification, so will be teaching many of the classes with Brenda (and sometimes Jen!) giving back up when needed.
- We hope to have all of our horses warmed up and ready for classes in May. It has been a COLD and ICY winter, so most of the horses had a lazy time. Now they need to do some stretching and get back into the thoughts of work.
- We purchased a new horse over the winter that we will work into the classes over the spring. Her name is Della Rose and we hope she will be a great asset to both programs.
- We will have Paula Auchenbach's Horse Sense Psychotherapy back again this year, this time on a Wednesday afternoon in the summer. We are excited to see what new folks we will be working with starting in June.
- Towards the end of the year (in the fall session) we hope to open our children's program up to include adults. We will be changing our scheduling practice in 2019 to have classes that focus on different ages as well as abilities. This will be an on-going work in progress, so what we have in place at first may get shifted around as needed. Because this is all new to us, we are taking this slowly to make sure it gets done correctly the first time.
- We are looking to add more Veterans' groups, when we have instructors available. As this is also a work in progress, it may change as we need it to.
- We look forward to all of the changes that will be occurring around the ranch this year.

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fundraiser at Canterbury Park!



A Day at the Races III, our annual fundraiser at Canterbury Park in Shakopee, MN was held on June 3rd, 2017 with a little warmer weather but we still had well over 150 guests that had a blast. Silks Restaurant seems to be the choice for our annual event at Canterbury Park. Great food, a super silent auction, drawings for prizes, and of course the races. What sets this venue apart from the others, are the outside decks where our guests can relax, watch the horse races close to the finish line, and get a sun tan at the same time.

We had some of our repeat sponsors and individuals but were so pleased that we were able to add some new supporters to our event to raise the funding necessary to keep our program for the children and young adults to a minimum and also allow us to keep our Heroes on Horseback program free of charge to give back to those brave military warriors who have sacrificed so much for our freedom. With this being said; some our sponsors and individual donors gave up their table/s and/or seats to allow veterans to come and enjoy the activities. Response from these veterans was that they had the time of their life and were so grateful for the opportunity to be included and send their thanks to each and everyone associated with Majestic Hills Ranch.

It is always a special day when you combine, client participants, volunteers, staff, and community supports all enjoying themselves with a goal to have fun, relax, and at the same time support a cause that each individuals believes in with all their heart!

As always, we could not do what we do with our great volunteers who work so hard to ensure we are always successful and we were. With all the help and support we were able to raise over \$27,000.00.

## Thanks to All!



Our Sponsors:







# DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY 2

October 28th, 2017 was another night to remember. Lessons learned...we booked the Everett McClay VFW

Post #1296 in Bloomington early in the year so we didn't have to worry about a blizzard like the year before. Eddie Hughes, our original Elvis, suffered a medical set-back, so thanks to our promoter we had another stand-in, Anthony Shore, who did a wonderful job and of course kept the audience bopping and dancing the night away. Offering large pizza's to every table, courtesy of Thrivent Financial and Fat Lorenzo's, everyone was stuffed, bid on silent auction items, purchased jewelry which a portion of the proceeds were donated to Majestic Hills Ranch, the night flew by. Lastly, thanks to Sandy Cotton who with her friend decorated and purchased high heels and combat boots and made floral arrangements for the tables. Chairs were marked so guests won the centerpieces in remembrance of a rocking night out!

### THANKS TO ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 2017

# 2017 RIDE-A-THON

We had exciting plans for our 2017 Ride a Thon participants! For this year's event, we had plans made for a Gymkhana which are patterned games played on horseback. The most popular game that most people recognize is Barrel Racing. During the week of Aug. 1st, all classes in the Children's



Program practiced, but the event planned for participants needed to be postponed twice and then cancelled due to an equine illness that struck some of our boarder's horses and the ranch needed to be quarantined.

Those that participated ended up with trail rides around the property either in the fall of 2017 or the spring of 2018 (once trails open.) We thank all that participated and were patient with the numerous cancelations. We are looking forward to the 2018 event!

### Thanks to everyone that supported our Riders & Volunteers.



In our second year with this event, we tried to find a new online site for the auction that was priced reasonably for the small amount we were doing but still easy to navigate. Unfortunately during the week of the event, several people were not able to make accounts to be able to bid and several more had trouble with bidding. By the end of the event we had only a few items bid upon—so we are going to take the rest of the items that were donated and sell them at our eBay store (once it is set up.)

Thank you all for giving this a try!





# VonHanson's Brat Stand

We had fantastic weather, tasty Brats and hot dogs, and lots of WONDERFUL volunteers that came out to help us with this fundraiser.



Thanks go out to all of those that not only helped with the stand, but that came out and ate with us. We look forward to seeing everyone in 2018!



GIVE TO THE MAX DAY Thank you all so much for your generosity!

Angen, Sheri Anonymous - Remembering Malibu Anonymous Bartsch, Kristen Enfield, Judith Freeman, Kathy Gallagher, Jen Hartley, Tom - *Tribute to the people* who make MHR great Huang, Sandy Jensen, Carla Johnson, Larry Kufrin, Jill Lang, Kevin Laukka, Suzanne - for Duncan the horse & Stuart the cat. Lenz, Hugh Martin, Kevin Meagher, Carol - The awesome staff and volunteers West, Christopher Zieska, Kris - For our horses, especially Della Rose.

# THANK YOU TO THE 2017 VOLUNTEERS!

A huge *THANK YOU* goes out to the over 200 volunteers that helped out with the programs, events, pilot program, horses, and ranch maintenance this year. We especially want to thank our instructors, teaching assistants, and barn aide for they are also volunteering their time: **Brenda Steinhauer, Gay Uttenhove, Jackie Buie, Laura Peterson, & Sue Anderson**. They put in many hours preparing, teaching, and assisting with the Children's Program, Heroes on Horseback, and the Horse Sense Psychotherapy Program. (I tried to get everyone's names listed below—but if you helped out at the ranch this year and you are not on the list, it is entirely my fault and I apologize. Your help was greatly appreciated and we certainly welcomed it!)

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Abens. Stacy L. Allen, Katie Anders, Becka Anderson, Kim Anderson, Sue Anderson, Theresa Angen, Shelby Angen, Sheri Arp, Jeanne Balfanz, Olivia Bartsch, Kristen Bechel, Penny Berglund, Lisa Berntsen, Brittanv Black, Brenda Boeser, Barbara Boeser, Duffy Bonham, Julie Brown, Becky Brunes, Susan Bruns, Gina Bueltel, Anne Buie, Jackie Carbone. Andrew Caspers, Michelle Christenson, Allison Denny, Anne Dixon, Leah Duffy, Caitlin Duffy, Dawn Duffy, Fiona Engeman, Bill Espinoza, Jen Ewings, Lindsey Flannery, Liz Fox, Kady

Freeman, Kathy Friedman, Lily Gandrud, Ellen Garcia, Ambar Grove, Lisa Haj, Samantha Hall. Dawn Hall, Nick Halverson, Alexandra Hansen, Kristine Hansen, Sydney Hartley, Tom Hawkins, Ethan Hawkins, Jerri Haws. Jeanine Hohmann, Kenna Hulse, Dylan Hulse, Shelly Jacobson, Stacey Joens. Beth Johnson, Jeff Karan, Sarah Koziol, Stacie Larson, Rachel Mady, Alicia Mathews, Elizabeth Mathews, Wendy Matter, Nicole McChitly, Cindy McWilliams, Anna Meagher, Carol Metwaly, Lisa Migletz, Lisa Migletz, Marie Mitchell, Jessica Moldstad, Nicole Moran, Sofia Morehouse, Megan Mozer, Natalie

Mueller, Sadie O'Connor, Stephanie Olson, Kavla Palm, Rhonda Patterson, Ian Petersen, Krista Peterson, Carol Peterson, Laura Prelesnik, Avery **Ouerdo Holmes**, Alex Richter, Amber Ring, Sarah Robbins, Amanda Robbins, Vanessa Rodriguez, Rob Rogers, Nadine Rogers, Tahlia Ryman, Linda Sadlowski, Faith Sanchez, Tessaca Schroer, Matthew Skube, Rebecca Smith, Mary Steinhauer, Brenda Steinhauer, Kaitlin Stetler, Kira Stroth, Patty Svendsen, Robin Tate, Cory tibbetts, erin Tushie, Londa Uttenhove, Gav Vidmar, Allison Vidmar, Jessica Wagner, Payton Weber, Lisa Wehrs, Debbie Wenmerskinchen, Daniel

Winters, Kathleen Wold, Bonnie Wollam, Abigail Wright, Tori Zelles, Elizabeth Zieska, Rick Zimmermann, Ellie

Thanks also to Parents, PCAs, & Therapists that were willing to step in and help when needed!

### HEROES ON HORSEBACK

Anderson, Scott Bakalakos, Alexis Anastasia Buie, Jackie Chevalier, David Childers, Jaquelyn DeWitt, Karen Dodmead. Jeff Engeman, Bill Evans, Stacy Fennewald, Amy Ferdinand, Peggy Fritsch, Jocelyn Galles, Pat Grace, Deb Green, Forrest Grumdahl, Judy Hopkins, Nikolas Hoppis, Shirley Johnson, Natalie Keefer, Sarah

Kinney, Tanelle Krueger, Dan Lohrmann, Heather Madsen, Darla Malecha, Suzanne Mathers, Robert McCarthy, Cindy Roble, Keith Ryks, Kathi Sather, Melissa Svejda, Bill Tate, Corrine (Cory) Yarbrough, April

Thanks also to Sgt. Church and the ladies from the MCF/SHK Challenge Incarceration Program. They worked incredibly hard on Thursdays & other additional project



Thanks also go out to the following groups that have helped at the ranch or with program projects:

- Lakeville Area Public Schools Community Education Department
- Valor Group from Inver Hills Community College
- Eagle Scout Jacob Shirk (Lakeville North HS)—tack locker project



# THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

#### Foundation Grants

Bobby & Steve's Auto World Youth Foundation Boeser Family Foundation Carl & Verna Schmidt Foundation Casey Albert T. O'Neil Foundation Curtis L. Carlson Family Foundation, The

#### Organizations

American Legion #45, New Prague American Legion #47, Hastings American Legion #98, Saint Paul American Legion #377, Delano American Legion #570, Bloomington American Legion #643, Savage Eagan Lions Club Marine Corps League Prior Lake Rotary Foundation Gerry & Sandy Doran Charitable Fund (in memory of Matthew Kesti) J. Elmer & Esther Hansman Charitable Trust Lillian Wright & C. Emil Berglund Foundation Margaret H. & James E. Kelley Foundation P.G.N. Foundation / Andrea Anderson Pochler-Stremel Charitable Trust

Prior Lake / Savage Optimist Club Sahara Sands, Inc. (Steve Gilbraith) Sweet Sioux Garden Club, Burnsville Tee It Up for the Troops (Oak Marsh Event) VFW Post #217, Columbia Heights VFW Post #4210, Forest Lake VFW Post #4210, Forest Lake VFW Post #5727, Zumbrota VFW Post #6516, Blaine VFW Post #6690, Mendota Heights VFW Post #8752, Cottage Grove VFW Post #9433, Rosemount

#### In Kind donations (Silent Auction Items for our Events)

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Armbrust, Heidi ARTISTRY at Bloomington Center for the Arts AssuredPartners of Minnesota Barn Co. Entertainment Belisle, Michelle & Gary Blue Plate Restaurant Co. Brave New Workshop Breadsmith - Minnetonka Byrne, Suzanne Chipotle Mexican Grill Commonweal Theatre Company Costco Wholesale - Burnsville #1087 Costco Wholesale - Eden Prairie Costco Wholesale - Saint Louis Park Cotton, Sandy Cub Foods - Chanhassen David Fong's – Bloomington D'Brian's Kitchen & Catering, Bloomington Doolittles Woodfire Grill -Bloomington Droolin' Moose - Bloomington Edina Plastic Surgery El Loro Mexican Grill – Bloomington **Emagine Theatres** Espinoza, Jennifer Fat Lorenzo's – Minneapolis Grand Casino Mille Lacs/Hinckley Grand Slam MN - Burnsville Green Mill Restaurant and Bar -Bloomington Guthrie Theater Harry's Café - Lakeville Haskell's, Inc. - Minneapolis Hiawatha Golf Club Home Depot – Bloomington Home Depot – Burnsville Howard, Kim Illusion Theater Jensen's Food & Cocktails, Eagan Joe Senser's Restaurant & Sports Theater Johnson, Larry Jungle Red Salon – Minneapolis Kerfoot Canopy Tour, Henderson Kincaid's Fish, Chop & Steak House Kowalski's Markets – Woodbury Kwik Trip – Farmington

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Espinoza, Erik & Jen

MOPH Auxiliary Unit 8, Northfield

Hulse, Shelly

Krone, Helen

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Migletz, Lisa

St. Paul Saints Baseball Club, St. Paul Surly Brewing Co. Sveen-Winters, Derek Target – Andover Target – Super Center – Blaine Target – W 79th St. – Bloomington Target - Brooklyn Center Target – Super Center – Burnsville Target – Chanhassen Target - 124th Ave. NW, Coon Rapids Target - 8600 Springbook Dr., Coon Rapids Target – Cottage Grove Target – Crystal Target - Fridley Target – Inver Grove Heights Target – Eagan Target – Edina Target - Lakeville Target - Maple Grove Target - Medina Target – 1329 5th St. SE, Minneapolis Target – North Saint Paul Target - Plymouth Target – Richfield Target – 1744 Suburban Ave. – Saint Paul Target - 1300 University Ave. – St. Paul Target – West St. Paul Target – Woodbury The Cheesecake Factory, CA The Hair Shoppe – Cindy Kuhlman The Olive Grove – Mendota Heights The Saint Paul Hotel Thief River Falls Seven Clans Casinos Total Wine & More, MD Trader Joe's, Bloomington Turner, Kim Turtle's Bar & Grill, Inc. Uttenhove, Gay Valleyfair Amusement Park Valley Natural Foods, Burnsville Viola Boutique – Asmae Boujaddi Wooley's American Steakhouse Yahr, Kathie

Rocco Altobelli, Inc, Burnsville Tushie, Londa Windy Ridge Riders Horse Club Zieska, John - Apogee Commemoratives, Inc. Zieska, Rick & Kris

#### **Corporation Donations**

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#### Individual Donors

Anderson, Betty Bakken, Allison Bjornard, Shanon Brunes, Susan Bueltel, Anne Buie, Patrick & Jackie Espinoza, Jen Forsyth, Mitchell Howard, Kim Hulse, Daniel Johnson, Debra R. Klaus, Charlene Klocke, Shannon Niver, Paulette Reiser, Mike & Sheri Richards, George S. Sanger, Karen & Steve Sather, Melissa Solberg, Irene T. Uttenhove, Gay & Mike Wallin, Patti Wells, Tasha Zieska, Kris & Rick

#### In Memory of...

In Memory of <u>Dennis Miller</u>,

- father of Michelle Caspers (volunteer)
- Miller, Lynda (widow)
- Caspers, Stephen & Michelle (daughter)
- Adams, Sherrie
- Caspers, Sheryl
- Chase, Grace
- Gross, Tim & Jane
- Melchert, Richard & Wanda
- Schnabel, Lorrie
- Seymour, Douglas & Tamara
- Twitero, LTC David & Cynthia
- Unrath, Paulette
- In Memory of William Costello
  - Ed, Nicole L

#### **Monitary Donations** (Events)

Building Assets, Inc. - James B. Meister ChiroCenter, Bloomington - Dr. Eric Schmit Enfield, Judith Johnson, Larry Lakeville Lions Legacy Companies, Inc. Metro Hair Design - Mr. Steven Wendt Stiles Financial Services Incorporated - Ms. Susan Stiles Tate, Cory WasteQuip, Rosemount Western Bank

## In Kind donations

Anderson, Sue Anderson, Theresa Bell, Teresa Benjamin, Liz Buie, Jackie & Pat

# WHAT'S NEW FOR 2018? MAJOR OVERHAUL AT MAJESTIC HILLS RANCH!

## Thanks to the donations of Chair/Founder,

## Kim Howard!

Transformation began in 2017 for a brand new "Indoor Facility" which will be strategically located with the best views of the Ranch.

#### The 100'x 200' indoor amenities will include:

- 100' x 140' Arena (insulated, but not heated)
- 100' x 60' Heated Stable Area
  - 20 stalls w/automatic waterers and slow feed hay feeders
  - Wash Stall
  - Program Tack Room
  - Boarder Tack Room
- A front addition will have a 60' x 30' Multi-purpose Area which will include:
  - Waiting Area w/Kitchenette & Restrooms
  - MHR Instructors' office
  - ◆ Patio w/Gas Fire Pit

In addition MHR will be adding/upgrading the following amenities in 2018:

- The existing Dry Lot is getting a major overhaul:
  - Winter round bale feeding platform (HoofGrid has been installed)
  - Lean-to areas and South/West sides of existing barn to get HoofGrid.
  - Re-grading area, installing gutters, new drains and drain tile around existing barn
  - Additional automatic waterer to be installed.
- New large turnout pens on south side of indoor facility with automatic waterer (each pen to fit about 5 horses or so)
- Re-configuring fencing layout, pony pen, parking area
- Expansion of the small outdoor arena to approximately 80' x 170'
- Electricity to hay barn
- Revamping of trails around the property line
- Repair drain tile at the front of the property (permit has already been applied for)

# STATISTICS FOR 2017

## Children's Program

- Total number of riders served by the **Children's Program**: <u>78</u> Participants in **Horse Sense Psychotherapy** Sessions: <u>16</u>
  - 4% 5 years old or under
  - 36% Between ages 6 and 10 years old
  - 29% Between ages 11 and 18 years old
  - 9% Over 19 years
- 59% of our riders were male; 41% were female
- While over 43 different diagnoses were present in our riders, below are the 4 that affected a majority of our riders.
  - 1. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
  - 2. Developmental Delay (DD)
  - 3. Attention deficit disorder / Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADD/ADHD)
  - 4. Cerebral palsy (CP)
- We offered classes to riders throughout the 7 county metro area, but 91% lived in the cities south of the Minnesota River. Of those cities, the top 4 are:

Lakeville	(21%)	Apple Valley	(13%)
Burnsville	(14%)	Eagan	(10%)

## **Our Volunteers**

We had over 225 volunteers helping out with our riding programs and special events, and ranch projects:

Children's Program = 3525 hours Veteran's Program = 1261 hours Projects/Events = 782 hours

#### Total Volunteer Hours = 5568 Hours

## MHR Heroes on Horseback Program

• Total number of injured military personnel, active duty and veterans in rehabilitation, that were served by the **Heroes on Horseback Program:** <u>31</u> <u>226 visits & 452 hours</u>

Air Force	10%	Army	32%
Army National Guard	3%	Coast Guard	3%
Marine	13%	Navy	39%

- 94% of our veterans were male; 6% were female
- While multiple diagnosis were present below are the top (4) four that affected our riders participating in the Heroes on Horseback Program: (Many have multiple secondary conditions.)

•	Dementia	23%
		0/

- (TBI) Traumatic Brain Injury 13%
  (PTSD) Post Traumatic Stress Disorder 11%
- ◆ Schizophrenia 6%
- We work closely with several military organizations and most of our riders/participants were referred by the following groups:
  - ♦ Veteran's Adult Day Center 32%
  - Outpatient Referrals 26%
  - ♦ Veteran's Home-Hastings 26%
  - ♦ VA Medical Center–Mpls: Poly-Trauma Unit 16%

## Our Horses

MHR owns 2 draft horses, 3 ponies, and 8 horses which are used in our riding programs plus 3 privately owned horses that are used for select classes. In 2017 these horses had a total of 982 rider hours throughout the season. We also used select horses for 97 hours of Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy during the summer session.