

To provide opportunities for growth through horse related activities for individuals with special needs.

Volume 1 Issue 1
June 2021
Editors: Dawn LaMee
and Kristin Jobe

Calendar

- Session 2: Special Olympics May 3 - July 13, 2021
- Special Olympics Equestrian competition July 11-13, 2021 Huron SD
- Session 3: July 26 - September 2, 2021
- Session 4: September 7 - November 18, 2021
- SPURS Barn Dance & Benefit Auction September 18, 2021

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News and Notes from SPURS

by Becky Fischbach, Director

Happy summer everyone! This is an exciting time for us at SPURS as our riders are working hard training for the **South Dakota State Equestrian Special Olympics**. We are heading back to Huron on July 12 & 13, 2021 with 25 riders, 12 horses and 20 volunteers for the two days of competition. Our friends at Northern Electric, Basin Electric and East River Electric are generously sponsoring our team again this year. We are incredibly grateful! This is quite an undertaking to pack up most of our tack and supplies to bring with us. We are always in need of healthy snacks and drinks to provide for our team, so please let us know if you would like to help in any way!

Jimmy's Pizza of Aberdeen has chosen SPURS to be the recipient of their **"Pizza with a Purpose"** night on Tuesday, June 15, 2021. Thank you, Michelle and Nick for donating 20% of all of the pizza sales that night to SPURS! Check out the awesome video made by the Schaunamans to highlight our program on the Jimmy's Pizza and SPURS Facebook pages. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan on a delicious pizza dinner from Jimmy's that night.

On page 6 you will find information about our **2021 Raffle**. You can purchase tickets at the SPURS office, Hitch'n Post, C-Express on 2nd street and Ivey's for Hair. Remember, you can't win if you don't buy a ticket!

You will soon begin to notice some major construction happening at SPURS. We are thrilled to announce the addition of our **James H. Thompson Sensory Trail**. Our staff has been researching and working with the Jack Thompson family, Quest Construction and Jacob's Construction to turn this dream into a reality. This beautiful two-acre area will have 15 different interactive stations along with a leisure trail all designed to help stimulate, engage and expand our rider's senses. We cannot wait for our riders to experience this trail in the fall!

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Follow us: on Facebook at SPURS Therapeutic Riding Center / Facebook and on our Website at spursaberdeen.org

Special Shindig - 30 year Anniversary

SPURS Therapeutic Riding Center was founded in the Spring of 1992 and is currently one of the largest and oldest riding centers in the state of South Dakota. The idea to form a non-profit origination dedicated to improving the lives of people with disabilities was developed by a group of community-minded individuals including Pat and Jim Bishop (horse owners), Vi Stoia, Jeff Sveen, and Jack Thompson, all of whom were instrumental in helping to make SPURS the phenomenal program it is today. After countless hours of volunteer work the Bishop's farm was transformed into a therapeutic riding center and received accreditation through the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH); the accreditation organization for therapeutic riding programs across the country. Pat recognized the seriousness and professionalism required to work with horses, kids, and people with disabilities so she later became a certified instructor through PATH.



Early on plans were put in place to develop a program that would include a modern riding facility dedicated to therapeutic riding and instructional training, riding barn with stalls, an indoor and outdoor arena, and meeting and physical therapy facility. Initially funding was provided by the founding members themselves in addition to funds received from numerous grants and fundraising efforts. When the program started it only had a handful of riders, a few horses, and a dozen volunteers but the success of the program quickly drew the attention of local schools, universities, and organizations from across South Dakota. In 1997, SPURS moved to its permanent location at 1006 130th Street with a 40-acre facility which has become one of the elite therapeutic riding centers in the region with 8 Staff members, 54 Riders (200+ before the Covid 19 pandemic took over the world), 16 Horses, and 35 wonderful volunteers.

Next year will be the 30th Anniversary of the formation of SPURS so several special activities will be planned throughout the year.



Special Gift

We send out a BIG thank you to Northern Electric Cooperative, East River Electric Power Cooperative, and the Basin Electric Power Cooperative on their recent \$2,000 donation for our Special Olympics Equestrian Team!! Last week we welcomed Char Hager, Northern Electric CEO/General Manager, and Ben Dunsmoor, Communications Director, to present the check. Picture are: (l-r) Dani Karlen, SPURS Head Instructor/Program Director; Char, and Becky Fischbach, SPURS Director. (photo by Ben Dunsmoor)

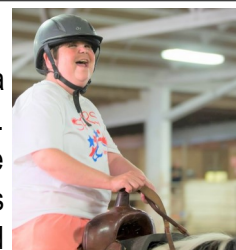
The riders on the Equestrian Team are incredibly excited to go to Huron, SD to

compete in the meet on July 12 and 13, 2021! The donation will really help with expenses for the trip. Thank you so much!!!



Memorial Gift

SPURS sends out a **BIG** Thank You to the Family of Angela Zimney for the beautiful additions to our outside seating area. Angela had a special soul and always loved to ride and spend time with the horses. With the help of Bill and Sue Nathe and Curtis Miller, volunteers, the swings have been assembled, stained, and will soon be ready to swing in.



Heavenly Spruce Up

We send out a BIG Thank you to the members of the Dream Reachers 4-H club for spending time revitalizing and sprucing up our "**Horse Memorial Garden**". It really looks beautiful now! We greatly appreciate the club for thinking of SPURS!!



Work Never Ends ...

SPURS would like to say a **BIG** Thank you to the staff at the United Way of Northeastern SD for putting together the "Day of Champions". We greatly appreciated all the student athletes from Northern State University for working very hard to clean up our stalls and reset mats in the cross-ties. Volunteers like these athletes are always welcome to be a part of our team! GO TEAM!!!



Upward Bound

Recently, we welcomed the students from the NSU Upward Bound program who helped clean up the flower beds and spruce up our grounds. Upward Bound is a federal program designed to inspire and support students in their pursuit of a postsecondary education. The program offers services throughout the academic year and during a six-week residential summer program at Northern. We really **appreciate** them for thinking of SPURS!



Another Group to Thank

This spring and summer we have been very lucky to welcome so many groups out to our facility to complete projects and to help our program in so many meaningful ways. The crew from the Brown County Specialty Court spent time painting and fixing the roof on the tack shed plus they worked on projects in the stall barn. This group got a lot of work done in a short amount of time. Thank you!

News and Notes from Spurs

(continued from Page 1)

Plans are underway for our big annual **Barn Dance and Benefit Auction Fundraiser** again this year on September 18, 2021. Along with the rest of the local organizations, we were unable to hold any in-person fundraising events last year, so we are looking forward to getting back in our Big Red Barn to celebrate our riders and raise funds to keep our program running. If you have any unique items you would like to donate for our auctions, you can either drop them off at our SPURS office or contact us and we can make arrangements to pick them up.

On page 6 you will find information about our **2021 Raffle**. You can purchase tickets at the SPURS office, Hitch'n Post, C-Express on 2nd street and Ivey's for Hair. Remember, you can't win if you don't buy a ticket! Thank you to everyone who has helped support our wonderful program over the past 29 years!

Wranglers

The staff at SPURS are all passionate about horses and improving the lives of others. They are blessed with a unique opportunity to utilize special skill sets that cross over into a truly unique therapy situation.



Becky Fischbach
Director



Julie Kumpf
Fundraising Coordinator



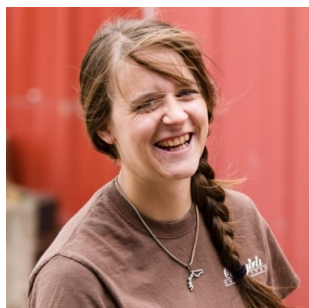
Dani Karlen
Head Instructor/
Program Director



Kristin Jobe
Administrative Assistant



Kortnee Kumpf
Volunteer Coordinator



Chelsea Swenson
Instructor



Lauretta Bebo
Instructor



Amy Woods
Instructor

Volunteers

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the SPURS program. Each one is trained to lead a horse, groom and tack horses, and walk alongside our riders, helping to support and stabilize them. Volunteering makes it possible for children and adults living with unique challenges learn how to ride, care for animals and bond with a horses, fellow riders, instructors, and volunteer helpers. Our volunteers often comment that although they came to give, they end up receiving so much more back. Both riders and volunteers alike find their time with SPURS immensely rewarding. Volunteers also assist with special events and fundraisers. Many different volunteering opportunities are available.

How does a person get involved?

Please contact Kortnee Kumpf at 605-226-1099 for more information about volunteer opportunities. SPURS is happy to accommodate virtually any arrangement a volunteer may need (day, time, hours). The application form to become a volunteer can also be found on the SPURS's web-site at spursaber-deen.org under Volunteer.



Kortnee Kumpf is pictured leading the horse while Dani Karlen instructs a group of new volunteers on how to walk around a horse

BARN DANCE

FUNDRAISER



September 18, 2021

Doors Open - @ 4:00PM

Dinner Served - @ 5:00PM

Silent Auction - @ 4:00PM

Live Auction - @ 6:15PM

LIVE BAND @ 8:00PM BY:

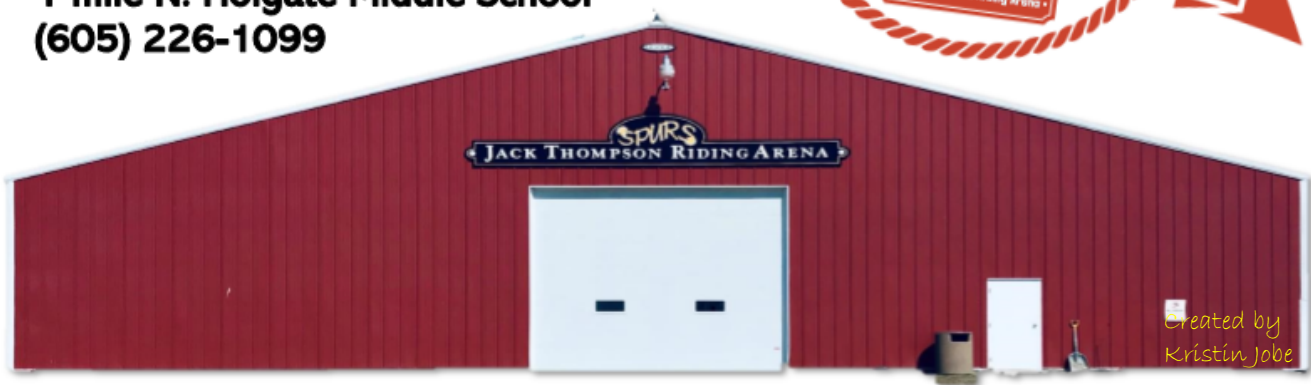


Ticket Price

Individual \$20 – Family \$40

-Tickets can be purchased at the Hitch 'N Post or at the door!

**SPURS Therapeutic Riding Center
38815 130th St. Aberdeen, SD
1 mile N. Holgate Middle School
(605) 226-1099**



Help us continue to benefit the special needs community in Brown County and the surrounding areas.

SPURS

2021 RAFFLE



1ST PRIZE

2021 John Deere Gator XUV590M S4 (4-Seater Side-by-Side)
From RDO Equipment Co. in Aberdeen, SD
(Winner is responsible for sales tax and title transfer)

2ND PRIZE

Green Mountain Wood Fired Pellet Grill
(The Jim Bowie Prime WiFi Model)

3RD PRIZE

Apple iPad 10.2 Inch 128GB (8th Generation)



BUY A TICKET FOR A CHANCE TO WIN BIG!!!

TICKET PRICE \$100.00

500 Tickets to be Sold

**Drawing to be held at
SPURS on December 15th,
2021 OR when all 500
tickets are sold**

Need not be Present to Win

**To Purchase a Ticket Call
SPURS at: (605)-226-1099
or Julie at: (605)-216-2975**

SPONSORS

RDO Equipment Co.

Lamont Companies

Target

Thrivent

BENEFITING

All Proceeds go to:

**SPURS Therapeutic Riding
Center in Aberdeen, SD**

SPURS
Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc.

Created by
Kristin Jobe

Annual Impact

"The Rider is the Reason"

2020

Created by
Kristin Jobe

1,232
Volunteer
Hours

Like

1,764

People Like
Our FB Page

78%
Funded by
Donations &
Fundraisers

WE ARE A
MEMBER OF



17 HORSES

**DEDICATED
VOLUNTEERS**

We are a
member of the
UNITED WAY



Sitting on 40 Acres of Land
Indoor & Outdoor Riding Arena
Feed Shed & Tack Shed
A-frame Office Building

**144 BIG ROUND
BALES of HAY
78 BAGS of FEED**

SPURS
Therapeutic Riding Centers, Inc.

Our Riders
Ranged from
Ages 4 - 51



**HILLTOP
HORSESHOEING**



Conde SD
Professional Farrier

Call Trevor at 605-382-7629



Thank You

We were lucky last week to catch a picture of Trevor in action as he spent a windy day trimming all the horses. We are so blessed to have a wonderful professional on our team. Thank you Trevor Wattier!

SPURS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Len Ivey, President
Robin Mitchell, Vice President
Kerry Swingler, Treasurer
Ron Lindner, Secretary
Becky Fischbach, Director/Ex-official

Members: Julie Berry Paul Darling Linda Ellis
 Keith Hainy Marion Marske Eldon Swingler
 Jeff Sveen Jack Thompson Lori Westby

SPURS (Special People Using Riding Skills)
Therapeutic Riding Center
Mailing address: PO Box 431
Aberdeen SD 57402
Physical address: 1006 130th Street
Phone: 605.226.1099
Becky Cell: 605.380.9295
Email: spurs@nrctv.com
Website: spursaberdeen.org

Notes from the Board by Len Ivey

As President of the SPURS Board of Directors I wish to share with everyone a little about an amazing organization we have in the Aberdeen area. It is a privilege to be on the Board and involved with a program that does so many wonderful things to change the lives of students and adults with special needs. We realize the program would not be possible without our amazing staff and volunteers, who put their hearts and souls into the success of every participant. I would encourage everyone to become involved with SPURS either by making a monetary donation to help support the day-to-day operations, to become a volunteer, or by attending the activities and fundraisers sponsored by SPURS. Thank you to everyone who helps in anyway because SPURS truly is an amazing organization!

Saddle up

Please give to the SPURS organization, so they can give to others!

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address, City, State: _____
Email: _____

In support of the SPURS Therapeutic Riding Center, I/we would like to contribute annually:

(Circle one) \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1000 Other _____

Where would you like your gift directed? ____ Horse Fund ____ Rider Scholarships ____ Give where needed most

Would you like to dedicate your gift in honor or in memory of someone?

____ Yes ____ No Name _____

How would you like to pay? Check Visa Mastercard Card Number: _____ Exp Date: _____ CVN: _____

Please make checks payable to SPURS and mail to: SPURS Therapeutic Riding Center, PO Box 431, Aberdeen, SD 57402.
Gifts are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. For more information, call 605-226-1099.

Authorization for Direct Payment I authorize SPURS Therapeutic Riding Center to initiate electronic debit entries to my:
____ checking account ____ savings account For payment of my \$ _____ donation.

I acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my account must comply with the provisions of the U.S. law.
This authority will remain in effect until I have canceled in writing.

My preferred withdrawal date: _____ Financial Institution Name: _____

Account number at Financial Institution: _____ Routing number: _____

Financial Institution city and state: _____

Signature: _____