

CONNECTIONS EQUINE THERAPY PROGRAM

Newsletter / January/February/March 2006

CONNECTIONS



Equine
Therapy
Program

CONNECTIONS

11585 Purple Sage Road
Cornville, AZ 86325
(928) 639-0791

connections@commspeed.net

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THE CONNECTION HORSE



'Tico'

Connections has a small team of gentle, well trained, hard working horses. We count on their honest, steady participation to function as a successful equine therapy program. In the past few months we have experienced some sad, but unavoidable changes in this team.

First and foremost, on February 23, after a long struggle with respiratory problems and other health issues, our experiential therapy horse 'Tico' had to be euthanized. In his life at Connections, Tico had the ability to make the best of the situation, and he always greeted you with a big friendly smile. He was a trooper to the end, and he will be missed by all of us who had the privilege to work and play with him!

The remainder of the working therapy herd here at Connections consists of:



Asia



Jessie



Nickie



Sunny



Tinker

Our program currently rests on the hooves of these dependable therapy horses. Three of the five horses are now over 20 years of age. Asia is 21, Jessie 24, and Tinker is a tender 28 years. As you may know, senior horses require special care and nutrition. It is critical that we keep the herd young and healthy. We need to strengthen the program by strengthening the herd. We are currently seeking a few good horses. If you know of any well trained animal that would make a good candidate for a therapy horse, please contact Connections at (928) 639-0791. If the animal meets the necessary requirements, it will begin the training process to become a Connections therapy horse.

Our therapy horses don't ask much of us ----- can we ask for a little help from you?

The therapy horses that help us improve and enhance the lives of our clients require Tender Loving Care themselves. **We do need your help.** CONNECTIONS is a non-profit, community-supported Equine Therapy Program. We depend on the financial support of caring people like you. People who would like to help us give our hard working therapy horses the compassionate and necessary care that they deserve.

Please clip and return with your donation to: Connections, 11585 Purple Sage Rd., Cornville, AZ. 86325

Contribution/donation

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

I would like to volunteer to help; please contact me.

My check# _____ is enclosed in the amount of \$ _____

Please make check payable to **Connections Equine Therapy**

THANK YOU!!!

HELP WANTED

Connections is looking for people that have the desire to help others and also enjoy being around horses. Prior experience is not necessary. Please call Andrea Baldwin for more information; (928) 639-0791

Thank you!

To the following businesses & individuals for your much needed support in 2005.

Dr. Edmond Safarian
John & Cindy McCain
Bob & Ellie Cocozella
B.P.O.E. Lodge, Sedona
James Arnold
Jewell Heart
Phoenix Cement
Pat Kramer
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Tony Stowers
Al & Lorrie Adeler
Steve & Corrine Bennington
Richard & Gail Strnad
Kimberly Tyler
Toma & MJ Gosselin
Vera & Eric Weiser
Kerry Wolfe

*It's always risky to thank individual donors for their support because there's the chance that we've missed someone. Here's hoping that we haven't missed **you!** If we have overlooked naming you for your contribution, we sincerely apologize and thank you for your generosity.*

ONE GOOD CONNECTION HORSE



Hi. I'm Jessie. I'm a Scorpio. I'm a 24-year-old registered black bay and white paint who has been a working mother of three (two daughters and a son) with a high-powered career in the show ring for many years. After retirement, I decided to devote my life to Connections Equine Therapy Program. I enjoy having something to do in my retirement years, and I need your assistance to help continue my work for this program. I look forward to meeting you. I love working with all clients, but my expertise and love is working with children and very fragile clients who are fearful and have difficulty expressing/communicating directions to me. I understand them. Now remember, I am only one of the hard working Connection horses that need senior TLC and extra attention. If you wish to help me or my herd buddies with our feed supplements and care please specify this on your donation form. I really would appreciate any help that you may wish to give us!

VOLUNTEER CLASSES

Many of our Connection volunteers are now enrolled in one of two classes being taught by program Director Andrea Baldwin. These classes are offered periodically to volunteers to help enhance the therapeutic program. They give the volunteers the knowledge and skills they need to provide consistent horse handling techniques. Horsemanship I is a beginning, hands-on class for volunteers who have had little or no experience with horses. Horsemanship II is a refresher course that reviews the beginning classes and sharpens the volunteer's skills on properly handling the therapy horse. Happy horses make for a better experience for everyone; the handler, the client, and the instructor! Consistency helps the horse to better understand what is being asked of him, therefore the horse is not stressed, and the program runs smoothly, without any unnecessary horse related problems.

BECOMING A VOLUNTEER

We could not operate without the dedicated help of our faithful volunteers. Please consider helping by BECOMING A VOLUNTEER.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the program. There are many areas in which volunteers can find a way to share their talents or learn new ones. Areas of opportunity are:

- Feeders
- Leaders
- Side walkers
- Horse care/barn care
- Special maintenance; work crew, garden work, etc.
- Gatekeepers
- Riding Team
- Volunteer Coordinator
- And MUCH MORE



HAVE ANY QUESTIONS regarding becoming a volunteer for Connections? Please contact us. We have a list of descriptions for the volunteer assignments, and we'll be glad to give you an estimation of the time commitment required for each assignment. Please call and ask if you can share your talents and a little time with us.

WARNING: Volunteer service at Connections may become addictively enjoyable. You could find yourself spending more time with us than you anticipated!

To learn more, to volunteer, or to make a donation you may call: (928) 639-0791, or email us at: connections@commspeed.net

CONNECTION'S WISH LIST

Tack Needs:

- ✓ Pat Parelli bareback pads (see patparelli.com)
- ✓ Large rubber bands from any ceramic supply house
- ✓ Peacock bands and tabs from Dover Saddlery
- ✓ Saddle racks
- ✓ Hamilton's halters, medium and large, Stateline Tack
- ✓ Leather romal reins, Stateline Tack or Valley Vet Supply
- ✓ 16" Western saddle, quarter horse tree
- ✓ Pro Choice saddle pads, Stateline Tack
- ✓ Cushion air saddle pads—custom fitting with adjustable pad and oversize western
- ✓ Day sheets—contact for sizes

Barn Needs:

- ✓ Adjustable helmets, small, medium, and large
- ✓ Blok training system, 6 pair, Stateline Tack (these can come one at a time)
- ✓ Front-end loader for tractor
- ✓ Tractor tires
- ✓ Watering/harrowing system for arena
- ✓ Horse toys and balls from any catalog
- ✓ Stall mats—five 12x16 and five 12x12
- ✓ Retractable hose systems
- ✓ Folding tables and chairs
- ✓ 2x4s
- ✓ Sheets of plywood for barn renovation
- ✓ Pipe metal
- ✓ Large fan
- ✓ Mister to help cool the horses in the barn

Horse Health Needs:

- ✓ Surgical adhesive tape (2" rolls)
- ✓ Elasticon adhesive tape (2" rolls)
- ✓ Vet wrap
- ✓ Ice tape, Stateline Tack
- ✓ Laube Speed Feed professional trimmer kit, Stateline Tack
- ✓ Tri-tec fly spray, 14 oz., Stateline Tack
- ✓ Farnam fly spray, 32 oz., Stateline Tack

On-going Needs:

- ✓ Latex-free band-aids
- ✓ Toilet paper
- ✓ Paper towels
- ✓ Hand sanitizer (no water needed)

Grounds Needs:

- ✓ Footing for round pen
- ✓ Footing for arena
- ✓ Fire ant remover
- ✓ Half-barrel planters
- ✓ Suitable shade trees
- ✓ Sprinkler systems

Office Needs:

- ✓ Office trailer
- ✓ Paper shredder
- ✓ Copier and cartridges
- ✓ Printer cartridges
- ✓ Copy paper
- ✓ Sticky nametags
- ✓ Post-its
- ✓ Colored markers

Yes! I'd like to become a monthly CONNECTIONS supporter.

I would like to donate: \$5.00 \$10.00 \$20.00 \$30.00 Other \$ _____/per month

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Contribution to Connections Equine Therapy Program is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.
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(Please clip and mail with your contribution to 'CONNECTIONS' at the address above)



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It takes many hearts, hands, and hooves to keep this program growing!

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