



Premier sponsor for our 30th year
SOUTH SLOPE
 PHONE INTERNET TELEVISION

Iowa Public Radio visits Miracles farm

Charity Nebbe, host of IPR's Talk of Iowa, and producer, Emily Woodbury, spent several hours at Miracles in Motion on May 17th. They observed a Hippotherapy class, as well as a Therapeutic Riding session that evening. The segment aired this past Thursday morning and can be heard at the following link: <http://iowapublicradio.org/programs/talk-iowa>. Thanks to Karla Miller and Joe Petta for coordinating the interviews and playing host to Charity and Emily. Board members Jerry Mohwinkle and Joe Petta were able to get a photo with Emily (left) and Charity, which made the day complete for them!



Thanks to our loyal donors we now have an Equicizer on order!

Because of your generosity and a grant from Aureon (South Slope's parent company), we are pleased to report that the newest member of our herd will be arriving shortly! We had more than 15 donors respond to our request for assistance, including a sizable donation from LuAnn Bower at Dark Horse Farm, Anamosa.

On their return trip from PATH training in Alabama, Dabney Hofmann and Maddie DeVore stopped at a couple of other therapeutic riding programs. One of the tools in use was the Equicizer – a life-size mechanical horse. We will be using our Equicizer for evaluation of students to fit the tack and any supports needed. In addition, students who may be too reactive to ride one of our therapy horses, can start with the Equicizer and graduate to our therapy horses.



We know our "guy" will be a buckskin and he's (or she's) in need of a name! Any and all suggestions are welcome. Email loisjames@gmail.com before the end of the month.

We were presented the Aureon and matching South Slope checks at South Slope's North Liberty headquarters. From left to right, Mary Chadwick, Parent Representative, MIM; Chuck Deisbeck, CEO of South Slope; Karla Miller, Acting Executive Director MIM; Bill Meyer, representing Aureon; Lois James, President MIM Board; Shane Von Holten, Marketing Manager, South Slope.



Thanks to Leash on Life for sponsoring our newsletter. You can visit them on their website at www.leashonlife.net



Horse 101 students helped with training new side-walkers

Just as the first session of Horse 101 was winding down, a group of new volunteers arrived for their initial sidewalker training. The Horse 101 students eagerly agreed to serve as riders in order to put on a mock class for a more realistic training experience for the new sidewalkers.

Volunteer, log your hours, win a t-shirt!

Our new volunteer time-tracking software, Volgistics, is up and running. Volunteer records have been established and many of you are starting to use the application to log your hours. At the end of June, 10 volunteers who have been logging their hours will win a t-shirt commemorating our 30 years of Miracles! The application and a link to Volgistics to log your hours are on our website www.miraclesinmotion.com under the Volunteer tab. Contact me at loisjames@gmail.com or Becca at b.wilhelm1234@gmail.com if you need more information.



Summer Horse 101 starts

Miracles thanks the McIntyre Foundation

We are very grateful to the McIntyre Foundation for a significant donation to our programs. The McIntyre Foundation is a private foundation started by the former chairman and son of the founder of United Fire Group, Scotty McIntyre. The foundation's support is truly appreciated!

Donations for a Silent Auction for our 30th anniversary celebration are now being accepted

French Creek Creations has graciously donated pottery for our 30th Anniversary Gala Silent Auction being held September 13. Ronda Parker, owner of French Creek Creations, has been creating horse-hair pottery and custom pottery since 2000 at her ranch outside of Fairburn, South Dakota. Ronda began realizing her artistic talents after receiving her first kiln from her aunt and uncle and credits her artistic success to her family. Ronda's parents, both battling serious illnesses, would search online for molds, which Ronda would then use to create pottery with horse hair. Today, Ronda and her husband, Tony, create the pottery together.

Horse-hair pottery is created by burning horse hairs onto the pot's surface to create designs. As horse hair is laid upon glowing, hot pots straight from the kiln, they sear onto the pot's surface and will leave very localized carbon markings.

If you have an item that you would like to donate to our silent auction, please reach out to loisjames@gmail.com. Thanks so much!





Our horses “beat the heat”

When the weather is as hot as it has been, we open the south door of the arena to give the herd a respite from the sun and flies. Karla set up a fan and Blaze, Raven and Bear grabbed front row seats!



James Investment Group, Inc. supports Miracles by sponsoring our website

Four years prior to the founding of Miracles in Motion, I started James Investment Group, Inc. in Iowa City. In 2007, my son, Jeremy James, joined the business and in October of 2016, the business transitioned to him. In semi-retirement, my new “job” is Miracles in Motion and I currently serve as the board president.

Both Jeremy and I believe in giving back – he is taking over as president of the Crisis Center of Johnson County board this summer. When I asked if he would be willing to help Miracles by sponsoring our website, he enthusiastically agreed. When he handed me the check, he said “Happy Mother’s Day”!

You can find out more about the history, services and causes supported by James Investment Group by visiting the website: <https://www.raymondjames.com/jamesinvestmentgroup/>

If your group or business is interested in joining Jeremy in sponsoring the website, please reach out – lois-james@gmail.com. Lois James

Miracles thanks the Crescent-Janko Masonic Foundation

Miracles in Motion has received a significant donation from the Crescent-Janko Masonic Foundation to purchase supplies to help our students with special needs. The foundation contributes to organizations helping needy children and is administered by the Crescent Lodge No. 25, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. We very much appreciate this generous support.



Join us at the farm for food, fun, and friendship!

Where: 2049 120th St NW, Swisher

When: July 28th, noon to 2:00 pm.

Make a day of it! Come to Swisher Fun Days in the morning, and stick around for the fun at Miracles!

www.miraclesinmotion.com

Special thanks to our premier sponsor for 2018!
SOUTH SLOPE





Little Guy helps an MVECS family learn about grooming and leading a horse!

From the Director

It is hard to believe we are midway through the Summer 1 Session already! Classes are going full steam (sometimes literally, though not over 90 degrees)! We have Hippotherapy (HPOT) classes running 40 minutes with eight students, their therapists, our instructor, and the horse teams (a horse leader and two side walkers). Therapeutic Riding Classes run Monday-Thursday with two 50 minutes classes in the evenings. Each class has 3-4 students, a certified instructor, and a horse team for each student, again consisting of a horse, a horse leader and one-two sidewalkers.

The crowning event this month was the visit by Charity Nebbe and Emily Woodbury from Iowa Public Radio. They spent several hours with us, touring the farm, meeting the Miraculous Herd, and interviewing several Miracles' staff and board members, HPOT therapists and parents of students. And, they cuddled Blaze and the minis, Mr. Sea and Little Guy.

Charity and Emily were in the barn when we changed over from HPOT classes to Therapeutic Riding-something I really wanted them to see. At about 5:20, we untack, groom and release the 4-6 horses from HPOT classes; feed the old guys, Scooter and Jasper (water-soaked grain to supplement grass); and groom, tack, and prepare the 6-8 horses to be used for Therapeutic Riding classes. All of this happening in about 45 minutes! It's a bustling time as teams of volunteers and staff transition from day to evening classes with 6-8 horses.

Then they watched as it all came together; the students in each type of class that showcased what Miracles is all about. I think they appreciated seeing Miracles at the height of activity. Their visit culminated in the production of the "Miracles in Motion: Therapeutic Riding and Hippotherapy in Eastern Iowa" that was aired on IPR's "Talk of Iowa" on Thursday, June 7th. You, too, can hear the show at <http://iowapublicradio.org/post/miracles-in-motion-therapeutic-riding-and-hippotherapy-eastern-iowa-0>

I think they captured the magic.

Karla S Miller
Acting Executive Director

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