

O.A.T.S. Notes

www.oatshrh.org

Offering Alternative Therapy with Smiles

Winter 2011-2012



O.A.T.S. hrh, Inc.

Our PATH Intl. Premier Center was established in 1997 as a 501(c)3, non-profit, all-volunteer facility. O.A.T.S. admits riders of any race, color and national or ethnic origin. Contributions to O.A.T.S. are tax deductible as allowed by law.



Our mission

To promote the health, happiness & well-being of handicapped individuals through horseback riding and related activities.

O.A.T.S. Notes is a publication of

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Happy Holidays!

Holidays... they're all about the gifts, right? Of course, we're not talking about the kinds of gifts that come off a shelf or in a box (well, just a little bit... see our Wish List at right). We're talking about the gifts that you can't put a price on, the giving and receiving of unconditional love, time, dedication, caring, accomplishment and more. We are very fortunate to experience these gifts in abundance here at O.A.T.S. year-round. Our horses give to our riders and receive our care, our volunteers give a part of their life and receive the special joy of helping our riders, and our generous donors and supporters help keep this all happening... O.A.T.S. We're all about the gifts. Whatever holiday you're celebrating, we wish you many gifts of the season.

News & Upcoming Events

O.A.T.S. Christmas Party: begins at 1 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 10 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Waterford. Sign up in the observation room; limited to 125 attendees. We will also be holding the drawing for our fundraising raffle (see page 2).

O.A.T.S. is featured in a promotional video for the Arc of Oakland County: visit www.thearcoakland.org to view. Many thanks to the Arc for including us!

Same place, different time: mark your calendars. Our Annual Dinner Dance and Silent Auction is Sat., Feb. 11, 2012 at White Lake Oaks.

Same organization, different name: NARHA, the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, has changed its name to PATH International (Intl).

Summer/fall recap: many thanks to everyone who made our summer and fall activities and events, old and new, such a success— our first Summer Festival and Open House, our GOALS program funded by a grant from the Autism Society Oakland County, our Smiles on Saddles Day Camp and our Mane Event Horseshow and Fair.

O.A.T.S. Wish List

Every item or dollar donated to O.A.T.S. frees up funds we can put back into the program and help keep costs low for our riders and their families and caregivers. Just as no smile is too small when it comes from a rider benefiting from the valuable therapy we provide, no contribution is too small, we appreciate them all. Thank you to everyone who has supported O.A.T.S. during the past year, and every other year.

- Watering tank for our arena
- 90" round folding plastic top tables (for our holiday parties and day camp)
- 4" paint brushes
- New outdoor mounting block
- Electric tea pot (for winter hot chocolate)
- Commercial solar lighting for O.A.T.S. entrance
- Weed whacker
- Large garbage bags
- A push broom and a corn broom
- Weatherproof clocks for our arenas
- Dry cat food for our cat Missy
- Used horse trophies and ribbons
- Paper cups for cold/hot beverages
- New traffic cones for our arenas
- Chain saw
- A projector for our video and pictures
- Decon (rodent poison)
- Western saddles and pads
- English saddles and bridles
- Adopt a horse for a year sponsors
- A cover for our driving cart
- Corporate and individual sponsors
- Dewormer for our horses (Zimectrin)
- Rainbow reins
- Safety stirrups (large)
- Toilet paper, toilet bowl cleaner, paper towels
- Window cleaner
- SEI/ASTM certified riding helmets
- New wooden safety skirting for indoor arena



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Bits & Pieces



Time is running out to get your raffle tickets! Purchase now for a chance to win a Wii Console with two sport games, an under-the-counter 10" flat-screen LCD TV/DVD/CD/clock or an iPad 2! One ticket for \$10, or three for \$20. Drawing will be at the O.A.T.S. Christmas party on Sat., Dec. 10. Need not be present to win.

Did you know a bale of hay costs approximately \$4 and in cold weather, a horse needs up to a bale a day? That a horse "manicure" costs approximately \$30 and they need a trim every 6-8 weeks? That a single dose of dewormer costs approximately \$8 and equines require it six times a year? Count all the horses and ponies that work in our program, and you'll understand why we're so grateful when people like **Shirley Showler** and **the Douglas family** sponsor one of our equine friends. Thank you Shirley for sponsoring Black Jack, and to the Douglas family for sponsoring Nickel.

We are still collecting cans and bottles! They make it possible for us to buy items for our fundraising raffles and other projects. Just leave them in the green container by our dumpster; please bag or box returnables. Thank you!



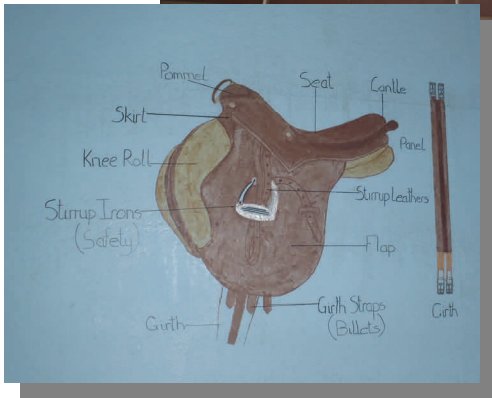
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James Miele
(248) 353-2027

Indoor arena “sports” a new look



Every experience is a teaching opportunity at O.A.T.S., even when we’re stuck indoors during the winter. Thanks to instructor Marybeth Hamilton, instructor-to-be Lesly Miller and volunteer Dee Beman, our riders have some new fun, bright and educational graphics on the walls of our indoor arena to encourage them to verbalize and identify things in the world around them.

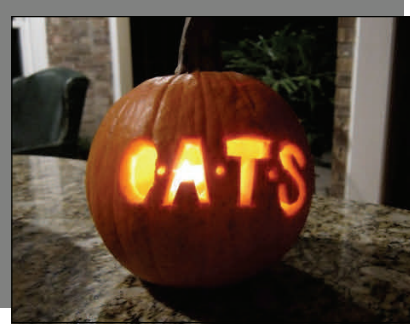
What our riders say about O.A.T.S.

“I am a really happy person. I am really happiest when I am on the horse. I just love it. I love looking forward to going every Saturday. I love Nancy and all the wonderful volunteers and workers.”
Elana Kaminer, rider since 1998

O.A.T.S. Annual Halloween Party

As always, we had a boo-tifully fun time at our Halloween party. Like every O.A.T.S. event, it wouldn’t happen without our wonderful volunteers and generous supporters, including the family of long-time rider Sergey Douglas, who have catered our party with their delicious North Shack chicken for years. Re-pay the favor by keeping them in mind for your next party or that evening you don’t feel like cooking. See their ad on page 2.

Below: “Emilia began volunteering at O.A.T.S. in September and she absolutely loves it there,” says her mom Kimberly Fanelli. Emilia is 9 and wanted to give back; “How could a mom say no to that?” says Kimberly. “O.A.T.S has been a blessing. It’s the highlight of her week and I love taking her. We’ve both been inspired. I think O.A.T.S is a happy, positive, magical place full of extremely loving people.” Emilia picked that pumpkin out of the pumpkin patch at the Halloween Party at O.A.T.S. Then she carved it herself! Emilia is pictured with another volunteer, “Cowboy” Bill Brown.





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December 2011							O.A.T.S. Calendar							January 2012									
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7										
				4:00 5:00		8:00 9:00 10:00 11:00	*Tuesday evening classes are for independent (off leadline) riders only.																
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14										
	5:00 6:00 7:00	9:30 and 10 a.m. 4, 5 p.m.*	5:00 6:00 7:00	4:00 5:00		8:00 9:00 10:00 11:00		5:00 6:00 7:00	9:30 and 10 a.m. 4, 5 p.m.*	5:00 6:00 7:00	4:00 5:00		8:00 9:00 10:00 11:00										
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21										
	5:00 6:00 7:00	9:30 and 10 a.m. 4, 5 p.m.*	5:00 6:00 7:00	4:00 5:00		8:00 9:00 10:00 11:00		5:00 6:00 7:00	9:30 and 10 a.m. 4, 5 p.m.*	5:00 6:00 7:00	4:00 5:00		8:00 9:00 10:00 11:00										
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28										
	5:00 6:00 7:00	9:30 and 10 a.m. 4, 5 p.m.*	5:00 6:00 7:00	4:00 5:00				5:00 6:00 7:00	9:30 and 10 a.m. 4, 5 p.m.*	5:00 6:00 7:00	4:00 5:00		8:00 9:00 10:00 11:00										
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31														
								5:00 6:00 7:00															

Help make our holiday wishes come true with a donation that will bring smiles to our riders all year long. See our wish list inside or include O.A.T.S. in your holiday charitable giving. Thank you!