

Eddy Farm School for Horse and Rider

December 2021 Newsletter



DATES TO REMEMBER

April 17

Easter Egg Hunt / Open Barn

August 21

Memorial / CDSS Event

October 30

Halloween Barn

President's Greeting

By Linda Schmidt



Holiday greetings from Linda! It has been some time since our last newsletter. The last two years have not been easy for the farm. However, we have continued to plug along. At the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, the farm was closed to riders and boarders for 3 months, but slowly and cautiously reopened to lessees and boarders as the weather warmed and the public's understanding of how to live safely in our new reality settled in. Activities that could be held outdoors and in open air were in high demand and the summer of 2020 was one of the busiest the farm has ever seen. The farm hosted very successful memorial events in August 2020 and 2021. Remote hybrid learning for the 20/21 school year meant that students had extra time to spend with their four-legged friends at the Eddy Farm and the horses soaked up lots of extra attention.

At this time we are sad to say that our CSAC partnership has been put on hold due to Covid, but there are plans to restart it once CSAC has the funding to support it again. Our joint Easter egg hunt and open barn have been canceled for the past two springs, and our equine wellness seminar program has been put on hold as well. We hope to revive our holiday food drive when feasible. Despite all these setbacks, the farm has bustled with the young riders who are year round students of Margaret and Alicia. The farm has truly been a haven for many, both young and old, during some of the most challenging times many of us have seen.

We are excited and proud to share all the latest happenings at the Eddy Farm with you in this newsletter.

(Another!) New Shed

In the fall of 2020, Andy built the biggest and best run in shed on the property to date. Renee Dean, who boards her horse at the farm, suggested the farm apply for a grant through the Emmett R. Quady Foundation. The farm's application was approved for the amount of \$4,000. This project was made possible with the funds from this grant, a generous contribution from a private donor and funds from the Eddy Farm savings. Andy has really outdone himself with designing and building this beautiful shed that serves two pastures and features windows and doors for viewing and airflow in the summertime.



Fox Hunting at the Eddy Farm

It was with great excitement that the Eddy Farm welcomed the Green Mountain Hounds to fox hunt at our location in August 2020. This was the first meeting of what has proven to be a happy and ongoing association. GMH is a local, Vermont based, drag hunt (no live quarry) that uses a variety of locations around the Champlain Valley and beyond as fixtures for their hunts. The Eddy Farm has quickly become a favorite spot of many hunt members and it has been a joy to share our beautiful location with such a wide variety of riders and mounts. We would not be able to host these hunts without the permission of various surrounding landowners and the farmers who lease and farm the fields. We would like to thank Middlebury College, Roger Scholten, Mike Ash, the Nop Brothers farm, and the Morseman family for their willingness to share this beautiful countryside with the Eddy Farm community and our GMH guests.



Middlebury Equestrian Team

Another new development at the farm has been a new partnership with the Middlebury College Equestrian Team. Coached by Kate Selby with assistance from our own riding director, Margaret Bojanowski, the team is in it's 3rd season at the Eddy Farm and has found the farm and our cherished lesson horses to be a perfect fit.

Solar Comes to Eddy Farm

This past summer, the Eddy Farm entered into a contract with A&M Inc. to lease the lower stable roof for installation of a solar array. The farm does not own the array, but is benefiting from a discount on our electric bill. At the end of the 25 year lease, A&M Inc. will donate the existing array to the Eddy Farm.

Volunteer Opportunity!

Eddy Farm community and alumni, have you ever wanted to be more involved with the Eddy Farm? Now could be your chance! The Eddy Farm board of directors is seeking new volunteer board members to expand our board with an emphasis on planning for sustainability into the future. Horse knowledge is not required. Previous experience serving on a board, grant finding or writing, creative talents, or other leadership skills would be a great asset. If you are interested or would like to learn more about this opportunity, please reach out to efshr.corp@gmail.com. Letters of interest can also be mailed to the Eddy Farm School Board of directors at 1815 South Street Ext. Middlebury, VT. 05753 We would love to hear from you and look forward to growing with your help!



Emily Leeds Scholarship Fund

Emily Leeds, who was a fellow equestrian, friend (and for a time, neighbor) of Doris' and cherished the Eddy Farm as so many who have had their lives touched by it do, passed away this year. Her children have made a generous donation to the farm in her memory with the simple request that it be used to further Doris' mission and passion for young people of all walks of life to have the opportunity to experience horses and all that comes with them. After some consideration, the board of directors made the decision to establish the Emily Leeds Scholarship Fund with this initial donation. These funds will be used to give worthy applicants the opportunity to experience horses and all the life skills and benefits they have to teach. Donations can be specified to this fund to ensure that it continues to serve the youth of our community long into the future.



Halloween Barn to benefit Nora Warren

Our Halloween barn this year held a very personal meaning for the Eddy Farm community. Nora Warren, a young student who had been lessoning with Alicia for several years, suffered a serious, life altering injury while swimming over the summer. It was decided that the annual Halloween barn would be held as a benefit in her honor with all proceeds donated to her family. Despite pouring rain, turnout was spectacular and many of the farm boarders, riders and parents put forth a tremendous effort to host a festive event. The horses were good sports in dressing up with their humans to entertain the families who came to trick or treat and enjoy the creative costumes. A Go Fund Me has been started by friends of the family to help during this challenging time. More information can be found here: www.gofundme.com/f/help-support-nora-warren-family



And finally, a heartfelt “Thank you!” goes out to all the people who helped make the past two years a success despite all the changes and challenges that have come our way. Our gratitude is unending.

Donations

Angela & Chris Murdough
Barbara Gibbs-Otsuka
Bridges/Bellinger Family
Donna & Rick Ebel
Connie Fisher
Gilfeathers
Barbara Greenwalt
Gill/Fifield Family
Hal & Nancy Clark
Schnoor Family
Little Press Room
Barbie Bassett
Renee & Mark Dean
A Woodner Foundation
Porter Knight
Leeds Family
Susan Bass & Betty Bird
Mary Goepel
Rich & Joan Schmidt
Alyce & Alfred Schermerhorn
Ann Snell
Newmark/Meyers Family
William Schmidt
Emmitt R. Quady Foundation
Paul & Mary Gill
Monument Farms
Matt & Deirdre Quinn
Lisa Burchard & Bob Read
Richard & Jacqueline English
Douglas Thompson
Meadowbrook Equine
Danielle Rougeau
Dana Hadley Perrone
Chris & Paula Roeloffs
Ed & Louise Rougeau
Karen & Ernie Malzac
Owen & Sandy Stolarcyk
Cynthia Varney
Ellie Molyneux
Lucinda Masterton
Eugenie Delaney
Laura Lynch
Tony Rifelj
Bess O'Brien
Aqua ViTea
Pam Burger
Amazon Smile
Susan Miller
Anita Nadeau
Max Kraus
Sophia Healy
Sally Knapp

Volunteers and In Kind Donations

Joanie Roberge
Mary Goepel
Avery Emilio
Hope Bellinger & Family
Danielle Rougeau
Renee Dean
Bojanowski Family
Addison Schnoor & Family
Mali Ward & Family
Willow Heywood & Family
Maev & Jolene Newton
Amanda & Morgan McNulty
Amelia Coburn & Family
Gillian & Jane Zieger
Nicola Power
Kylie & Myla Portz
Audrey Carpenter
Holly Staats
Betty Bird & Susan Bass
Gill/Fifield Family
Linda Schmidt
Alicia Odell
Lisa Thompson
Nancy Benson
Owen & Sandy Stolarcyk
Jen Thompson
Anita & Alfie Nadeau

Ken Norman
Donna & Rick Ebel
Emily & Cathy Walsh
Susan Miller
Sasha Berno & Family
Ian Fenster
Jake Wilkinson
Amanda Ferrone & Jason Arvidsson
Kate Selby
Deirdre Quinn
Dinara Newmark & Family
Ashley Goad
Charlotte Graham & Family
Jen & Emma Delabruere
Linsey & Leah Williams
Michelle Bennett & Children
Janice Bosworth
Sangeeta Lust
Abigail Gusakov & Family
Amanda Gilbert
Rachael Nagy – Benson & Family
Jan Carter
Abby Laframboise
Mary O'Donovan
Sarah Wood
Megann Watkins & Family
Emma Best

Our Volunteer Board of Directors

Linda Schmidt – President
Lisa Thompson – Vice President
Nancy Benson – Secretary
Abby Schnoor – Treasurer
Kathleen Gill

