



## Happy Spring!

Spring is finally here and there are lots of things going on in and around the barn. In this newsletter, you'll find news from our executive director, Leanne, our program director/instructor, Jan, and our new volunteer manager (and veteran instructor) Jen. You'll also find information on our new online logowear store, a link to a fabulous article about Jan in Horse Nation magazine, an invitation to our Pink Posse Barn Raiser, an update on our Adopt-a-Horse program, and a save-the-date for the annual Boots, Brews, and Barbecue!

[Visit Our Website](#)

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## Spring has sprung!!

As I write, the weather outside my barn office window is warm and sunny, just last week snow was falling! The horses are losing their winter coats, the barn swallows are back, and staff and volunteers have been spending time getting ready for our Spring/Summer Session that began this week. This is busiest time of year for our horses, volunteers, instructors and participants. I am so happy to see the barn filled with smiles, noise and activity!

In our quest to serve community needs, we are always striving to be innovative. Jan and I invited Jacqueline Jeruss, MD, PhD, and Director of the Breast Care Center to TRI. She met our horses, toured this amazing facility and learned about what we do at TRI. She quickly identified that women with breast cancer could benefit from our program and shared her desire to make something happen at TRI for her patients. After she left, Jan looked at me and said "we have to help these women," and this was how the new Pink Posse Program for women living with or surviving breast cancer came to be! The objective of this program is to inspire confidence, build physical strength, and provide happiness and support. It is a pilot program supported by The Pink Posse Barn Raiser held on May 4, y'all come! See the details below.

I would like to recognize Jen, the staff and volunteers who have trained our newest volunteers. It's always nerve racking to be the new kid on the block, but it wasn't long before our new trainees were smiling and having fun with our seasoned volunteers and

staff providing guidance. Thank you so much, and a big WELCOME to our newest TRI members!

The Board of Directors has been volunteering countless hours to their respective committees. Earlier this year, they hosted our first Board and Staff Strategic Plan Retreat. Did you know we have a strategic plan? We do, and I am happy to share that we are on target with the goals and objectives of this strong and comprehensive document supporting the foundation of what we do. A huge thank you to Joe Marr of Sandler Sales Training for making his beautiful business space available to us for the retreat.

We have a very busy spring and summer in front of us. We are grateful to all of you in our TRI family who make this program possible with your time, resources and support in so many ways. I just have to share the goose bump feeling I had a couple of weeks ago when the mother of a young child ran up to me and asked, "Have you heard? My son got in the program, Jan called us!!!" This child has been on our wait list for over two years. I can guarantee that the wait was worth it because we have the most amazing volunteers, horses, staff and donors ready to change his life forever at TRI!!!

Happy spring and summer to all!

Leanne  
Executive Director

## Pink Posse Barn Raiser



Please join us for the Pink Posse Barn Raiser!

**Therapeutic Riding, Inc. and Dr. Jacqueline Jeruss, Director of the Breast Cancer Center for Michigan Medicine, invite you to join us on Thursday, May 4th for a fundraiser to support TRI's new Pink Posse Program. The program will provide horseback riding lessons and other equine activities free-of-cost for women living with or surviving breast cancer.**

**The fundraiser will take place Thursday, May 4th at Cobblestone Farms and will feature a short program, strolling appetizers, beverages, live music and a raffle.**

WHEN

**Thursday, May 4th**

6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

WHERE

**Cobblestone Farms**

**2781 Packard Ann Arbor, MI**

**RSVP No Later Than Friday, April 28th**

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## Happy 2017 Everyone!

TRI is already going strong with our regularly scheduled riding sessions. Hopefully, when you read this, spring will have sprung, the DEEP mud in the paddocks will have dried and the summer grass will be growing for our horses.

We welcome Nora Taylor to the staff this year as a newly minted PATH Intl. Certified Instructor. She will be teaching classes, training horses, and helping Linda keep our tack in good condition. We welcome her and are very proud of her accomplishments. If you see her, please welcome her with open arms! Cassie Mann has joined the staff as our Office Manager, and we welcome her to our TRI Family!



Training Major to accept the hoops

TRI had a new pilot program in February and March with **LightUp**. "It is LightUp's mission to develop exceptional research-informed programs and to make these programs accessible to those who need them the most." TRI is honored to be one of those programs. [Click here](#) for info on the LightUp program.

Our **TRI OnThe Trail** continued this year with our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> trip to UM / C.S. Mott Children's Hospital. This horse-less program utilized our Equicizer, some educational material and a fun horse art project/gift. We were much honored to be able to bring some of the joy of TRI to the children and families at Mott.

"**My Turn**" was held at TRI on Feb. 12. This is a program for Families Affected by ASD. There is so much to tell you that you had better go to and see for yourselves! We have some new "partners" this year so [click here](#) to have a look.

You will see our New Volunteer Manager's article in this newsletter and yes, you already know her as one of our instructors but please tell Jen Beyer hello and thank you (wearing yet another hat)!

We have doubled the number of volunteer trainings this year - but she will tell you that, and more, in her article.

There are a couple exciting new programs in the works for TRI this year; we are still working out the details so you had better stay in touch. Along with our TRI-FECTA race and BBBBQ...well, we will surprise you....

Jan  
Program Director/Head Instructor

[Click here](#) for a wonderful article about Jan and TRI in Horse Nation Magazine!

## From the Volunteer Manager

When I took over as volunteer manager in December of 2016, I did so because I love working with all of TRI's wonderful, dedicated volunteers. As always, our volunteers stepped up to the

challenges of our 2017 Early Bird Session. We had wonderfully warm weather, followed by freezing cold, rain, snow, wind, and, of course, *mud*! But you all layered up, braved the roads, and joined us to create a successful experience for our riders. Many thanks to all of our Early Bird volunteers!

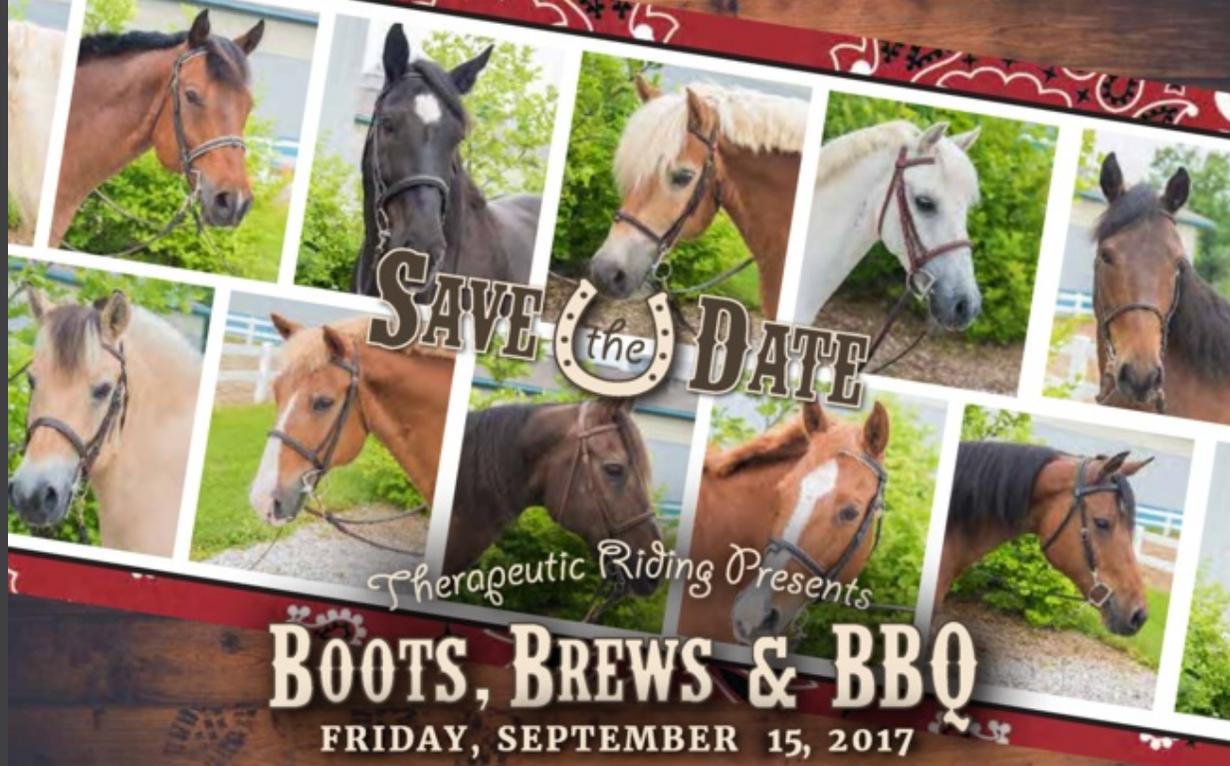
I'm also proud to welcome 22 new volunteers who joined us after a successful orientation in February. A dedicated group of longtime TRI volunteers assists with each orientation, making sure that everyone is safe and comfortable as they assist our riders. Our new volunteers have all been excellent additions to our team, thanks in large part to the guidance they received from our volunteer orientation training team-thank you all!

Looking ahead, we have a lot planned for rest of 2017-more new volunteer orientations, horse leader & mounting assistant trainings, several new programs, and exploring a new volunteer management system. Perhaps the most important, however, is Volunteer Appreciation Week (April 23-29). This is always such fun, as it is a chance for myself and the TRI's Board of Directors to say "thank you" to our volunteers, in the best way we know how-with food! While it is never enough to express how truly grateful we are to each and every one of our volunteers, I hope that you will all take a break during our busy classes to enjoy some delicious snacks and refreshments.

Finally, I am always looking for ways to make the volunteer experience at TRI better. New, easier-to-fill-out volunteer forms and more training sessions are some things that you asked for, and we made them happen! Please don't hesitate to contact me with any other suggestions you may have: [volunteer@therapeuticridinginc.org](mailto:volunteer@therapeuticridinginc.org).

Jen Beyer,  
Volunteer Manager

## **Boots, Brews, and BBQ**



Therapeutic Riding Presents  
**BOOTS, BREWS & BBQ**  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2017

A casual western, fun-filled, blue jeans evening!



FROM 6:30 PM 'TIL THE COWS COME HOME!

 Scrumptious BBQ supper & spirits

 Music and dancing in the barn

 Tour TRI and meet the horses!



For more information, visit:  
[therapeuticridinginc.org](http://therapeuticridinginc.org)

Therapeutic Riding, Inc. 3425 E. Morgan Road Ann Arbor, MI 48108

## ADOPT-A-HORSE UPDATE - CELEBRATING OUR ADOPT-A-HORSE DONORS

- The James A. and Faith Knight Foundation have again adopted April and Major, we appreciate you!
- The handsome Garuda has been adopted by the Laura J. Niles Foundation!
- Debbie and Lisa Craig have adopted the ever steady Leon!
- The J.F. Ervin Foundation has renewed their adoption of B Smiley, who makes every rider smile!
- MIS Cares has renewed their adoption of our wonderful, gentle Maizy again. We are so grateful for their support.
- Anonymous donors have adopted the beloved Miko.

Please contact [Leanne](#) if you are interested in adopting a horse, we have 7 more horses that need you!

## Logo wear Online!

You can order terrific TRI logo items from the comfort of your own home. Simply visit our new online store [here](#) to see all the colors and styles, then order what you want. The on-line store will be open thru April 28th. Items will be delivered to the TRI barn by May 12, and we will contact you when they arrive! This is all new, so please contact [Cassie](#) if you need any support. We will open the online store a few times a year for your convenience.

STAY CONNECTED:

