

JUNE 2013 NEWSLETTER



Ava & Dad's first visit to JAKES Club



The outside of a horse is a great thing!



Ava & Grandpa's visit

JAKES Club –

Hope you all have stayed safe, dry and *now cool*, with the joys of our Missouri weather. It certainly has been an unusual spring! Jesus And Kids Evangelistic Saddle Club (JAKES Club) families have certainly been patient with ALL the weather cancelations this year. We certainly need prayers for our Lord to move us to a permanent home with an indoor facility & concrete. Any of you have land? ☺

Even with all the delays and disappointments with the lack of riding time it has not deterred TSC (Therapeutic Saddle Club) enrollment. We continue to grow with new families that are referred and wanting to sign-up. In fact the Founders/Board has needed to implement a new TSC Registration Fee of \$20.00 per year to encourage commitment to scheduling. The policy will begin with all new riders only, not existing participants until 2014. JAKES Club will continue to minister and serve group free-of-charge programs Tuesday-Friday; sharing the love of Christ to *exceptional children with exceptional horses!* Enjoy this month's family TSC testimony of one such adorable little girl, Ava, from her mother Tracy: ☺

I am not even sure where to begin, but what I can tell you is that JAKES Club has become part of our family. I think Ava and her sister Olivia ask at least 3 times a week, "Is it time to go ride MY horse"? Everyone knows that Ava has a dog and since meeting all of "her" horses, if you ask her now, she will say, "I have a horse, a dog and a barn cat." Ava was diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum at age 4. From early on she had a passion for animals; a passion that we could not even put into words. We were so lucky to have found this program through our Case Worker with the State of Missouri. From the beginning, Cathie and Ava's team have always loved and greeted us each and every week with open arms.

Ava has come so far since she first began with JAKES Club. She has always been extremely talkative and full of life. I will never forget the first time she got on her horse, September 2011, she didn't say a word. It was the quietest she had ever been. We were always told how therapeutic riding would be good for her, but we didn't really understand until we saw her in action. My eyes welled up with tears as we observed she was a natural and her dad smiled from ear to ear. She loved every minute of being on that horse! Her *little* sister Olivia began participating some because, I mean she is the younger sister; therefore she wants to be just like her big sister. Olivia quickly began getting to ride after big sister was done. Now if you ask Olivia, she has a horse too.

Ava's favorite thing to do is actually ride Phil; however she has acquired a passion for grooming and saddling her horse. She knows the routine as soon as she gets there and her confidence just shines. From grabbing her helmet, to her grooming and saddling supplies, she is off to the stall (she recites the names of the brushes and saddles at home). The first thing she does is put out her hand for Phil to smell and begins talking to him immediately. It makes our hearts so happy every time we see her do just that because she is truly in her element and has come so far. She loves it when her grandpa and family come to watch her so she can show them how it's done. I also have included a few pictures to share. Wow! She has really grown up and JAKES Club we (Karl, Tracy, Ava and Olivia) thank you!

Thank you friends, families and partners for helping JAKES Club make the programs available to these precious children; you can hear the heart of this mother who gives thanks for all you do! Please remember in addition to monthly financial support for operating expenses, we have included the list below of additional responsibilities this month. Blessings to you all!

Cathie & JAKES Club's Team ☺



Donation Choices:

- [] **Workplace Giving** – Contact employer for matching giving – CFC #80536 Federal or MSECC #3007 State employees
- [] **PayPal Online** – www.JAKESClub.org – Donate *or* **Automatic Pay & Mailing** through your bank – Contact bank for more information
- [] **Monthly Check** – Self addressed envelope provided
- [] **"Specific" items this month:** Annual Vet check, Winter Hay balance (decreasing, thanks Bake Sale) ☺ & Tractor Supply fly spray/canisters' etc.!!