



Seize the Day ...

Fall 2006

## Carpe Diem Farms News

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*Empowering individuals through life changes to see the possibilities and opportunities that abound.*

### Counting Our Blessings at Carpe Diem

As the year begins to draw to a close and the holidays are upon us, there seems to be no better time than now to express our thankfulness for all of our blessings in 2006.

Some recent blessings have come in the form of adoptive families for the horses. The first to be adopted was Anna Banana, our four-year-old Alpha Mare. Frances Bunzl and Judy Kight of High Pasture donated Anna to the farm when she was just three months old. Now they're back in her life—this time as her adoptive family!

Next to be adopted was Battersea Tracy, the Farm's new baby. After attending Sue's presentation to the Cullasaja Women's Outreach group about the Farm's need for adoptive families, Mrs. Frazer McCrorey generously adopted Tracy in honor of her friend, Mrs. Patricia Williamson. One half of Tracy's adoption fee is still available, and Tracy would be happy to be shared among as many people as are interested.

Another generous donation that came as a result of the CWO presentation was the full adoption of Sweet Pea, our registered Quarter Horse mare, by Jeri Durrett. The Cullasaja women who have made a commitment to the community's non-profits, and Carpe Diem Farms in particular, are a tremendous blessing to us all!

Our August Be A Star for a Child benefit was one of the most successful events in Carpe Diem history. Thanks to our generous and committed supporters, we raised over \$20,000, covering one-eighth of our annual budget. Gifts to Be A Star continued long after the event was over with the generosity of Rene Silvin and his friend Nadine House.

A miraculous call on a Sunday afternoon in September from friend of the farm Rene Silvin, who had recently published *How I Survived Swiss Boarding School*, resulted in his commitment to donate the proceeds of the book sales to Carpe Diem. Having researched many local charities, Rene selected us because the work we do with children resonated with him and the message of the book.

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### CDF Rentals:

### Weddings, Board Retreats, Workshops!

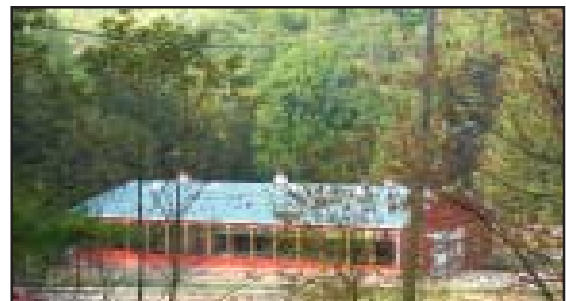
Are you making plans for 2007--parties, weddings, receptions? The sky's the limit! If you like a relaxed atmosphere with a full commercial kitchen (which of all the local caterers have used and appreciate) and an open floor plan that can accommodate up to 300 people, then consider Dead Eye's Barn at Carpe Diem Farms. And if that's not big enough, we have an 8,000 square foot indoor arena for picnics, parties, even a band!

In addition, our newly renovated and tastefully appointed Lodge accommodates up to 14 guests. Recent events held at the farm have included a wedding, reception and brunch, rehearsal dinners, board retreats, corporate appreciation parties and benefit galas. We're currently booking for summer 2007, so get in touch with us now to save a space for your special event.

We think of the farm as a sanctuary for both humans and animals alike. Please see our website for photos and more information, or give us a call and we'll make your event magical!



*The Lodge--Queen Suite  
Queen bed, queen sleeper, twin  
bed, private bath,  
laundry and deck.*



*CDF Experiential Riding Arena*

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Nadine House organized and planned a book signing party at her magnificent home in Cashiers. More than thirty guests, dear friends of Nadine and Rene, attended the lovely al fresco dinner. Nadine outdid herself preparing the palate pleasing meal. She and her fellow philanthropists, a new audience, interested in following and learning more about CDF have generously contributed to the Be A Star for A Child fund. To date, we have received \$4,500 from the philanthropists: Ms. House, A Friends' Foundation (Frank and Ruth Hubbard), Suzanne Lawton and Henry Mendler, Margaret and Jerry Pennington, and we're sure others will follow. These generous gifts have begun a new level of giving for the children, providing much needed scholarships for our after school and summer camp programs.

We're also thankful for the programming successes that we've experienced over the past year. Magic happened here on the Farm during our fall sessions of In the Company of Horses...Learning Their Language. One of the participant from the September session wrote in her final evaluation, "I came to Carpe Diem feeling frustrated and bottled up around some issues in my life and leave here with a new focus and commitment to that still small voice within." Another participant wrote, "horses can teach us so much if we can only be still and listen." How right she is!

During these sessions of In the Company, participants and horses alike were able to enjoy playing in our new Experiential Riding Arena. We can hardly begin to express our appreciation to Martin Murry of Topline Grading who made this space possible. His gift of equipment, labor and expertise literally moved mountains of dirt and provided us with the necessary therapeutic footing for the horses. Martin and his crew provided the precision necessary to meet the US Dressage Association arena regulations. We are so proud to have the only interior riding arena in the area. Without the support of generous donors, this dream would not have become manifest. The following people provided the funding for the construction of the building: The Janirve Foundation, Greg and Amanda Gregory, Ray and Diane McPhail, Candy and John McKey, The Hack Family Foundation, Nancy and Kyle Thomas and a memorial gift to Mack Armstrong.

We would be remiss if we did not remember the lives of our beloved equines, Charlie Brown and Graceful Command aka "Gracie" who passed away last November 11<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, respectively. Their physical presence has been sorely missed all year, and we have been reminded daily of their incredible contributions to all of our lives, and that of the herd, as well as program participants. They were the backbone of Carpe Diem Farms and we are so grateful for the legacy of excellence that they created.

## Three CDF Horses Still Seeking Adoptive Families!

We have celebrated the adoptions of four of our horses, now Maude, Promise and Fast 'n Easy are waiting for you to make them part of your life! And, Tracy would welcome someone to share in the other half of her adoption (she's so excited to have been partially adopted by Mrs. Frazer McCrorey in honor of Patricia Williamson). Miracles abound at Carpe Diem because of our unique and devoted equine staff--without them there is no program! These amazing creatures help individuals work through fears, overcome physical and emotional limitations, and so much more.

Their care costs \$35,000/year (\$5,380/horse.) Our Adopt-A-Horse program, which covers daily care, farrier, vet bills, food, hay, supplements, vitamins, grooming supplies and training costs, offers a unique opportunity to provide the joy of horsemanship to many. We are looking for individuals or groups to become adoptive families for our horses. Sign up now-- join with others and pay a portion or pay it all, either way, your name or the name of your choice will be posted on "your" horse's stall as a supporter. By adopting a horse, you will touch not only the lives of these amazing equines, but also every participant who walks through the gate.



*I'm Maude. Sue calls me her big-hearted girl.  
I'm hoping that someone will adopt me, too!*

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## Wish List!

CDF has a seemingly endless list of equipment and facility needs. For a tax deductible donation, consider donating an item from a some of the following list:

- "New"Old Farm truck. Our Big Red has finally taken its last ride. Please help--we can't run a farm without a truck! New for us is anything *less* than 16 years old.
- Sprinkler system and electricity for the Arena
- Lighting and sound system for the Arena
- Arena outbuilding for storage of tools and tack