



The Santana Center Times



A Quarterly Newsletter of The Santana Center

Volume 1 Number 1 Fall 2005

Message from the President

Kathy Castro, Ph.D.



The Santana Center president Kathy Castro getting horse kisses from Santana.

The Santana Center was incorporated as a nonprofit organization in Rhode Island in November 2004. It was named for my 14-year-old saddlebred horse, Santana Satin & Gold, who suffered a traumatic back injury while playing in the pasture and had to be euthanized.

Through my interactions with him, I learned not only about being a horse “teacher,” but also about true partnerships. This amazing horse continues to be an inspiration.

Santana taught me how significant the interactions between horses and humans can be. This is the message we want to convey through The Santana Center. Our mission is to promote, encourage and foster healthy interactions between horses and humans through education, training, and outreach activities. This includes sponsoring classes on horse care, equine-assisted therapy, leadership and personal development, and riding/training. Our ultimate goal is to see all horses receiving the best care from informed horse enthusiasts who are engaged in a true relationship with horses. Please join us in future activities.



Santana Satin & Gold

Visit us on the Web at: www.thesantanacenter.org or call Kathy Castro, The Santana Center president, at (401) 294-6614 for details about our programs and upcoming events.

501(c)(3) Status

The Santana Center is a recognized nonprofit, public charitable organization. This means that we are eligible to receive your tax-deductible bequests, donations, and gifts. Future issues of the newsletter will acknowledge our donors prominently. Thank you for your generosity!

Santana Center Debuts at East Farm Day

Our very first event took us to East Farm Day at the University of Rhode Island (URI) in May 2005. Stormy, our mascot—a miniature horse owned by The Santana Center secretary Jessica Smith—was the star of the show! We staffed a joint booth with students from the URI Animal and Veterinary Science (AVS) Club who brought lambs to show off. We came prepared with information on horse care/ownership, held a raffle, and spoke with many of the over 1,000 people in attendance.



Jessica Smith (far right) talks about care of her miniature horse, Stormy, to a group of East Farm Day participants.

The Santana Center

Mission

The Santana Center is a non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to promoting safe and meaningful interactions between horses and humans through education and outreach activities.

Board of Directors

Kathleen Castro, Ph.D., President
Bruce Graham, Vice President
Jessica Smith, Secretary
Malia Schwartz, Ph.D., Treasurer
Nicole Castro, Member-at-Large

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Exploring Equine-Assisted Personal Development

We have had the opportunity to work with several children over the last few months assisting them with their educational and emotional development. Horses and children make great partners! We hope to develop this program further with partners and dedicated funding.



Horses and children make great partners! A student rides "Kaito," owned by Kathy Castro.

the strengths and capacities of each organization. We will conduct joint activities that promote education and distribute information to interested people.

The Rhode Island 4-H equine program is an excellent way for kids to start to learn about horse care and riding. If you would like more information about 4-H, call (401) 874-2959.

A New Partnership with the URI Animal and Veterinary Science Department, Cooperative Extension and 4-H

With our mission of being an education and outreach organization for equine activities, it makes sense to combine efforts with URI's animal, veterinary science department and Cooperative Extension. We are developing a partnership that will better utilize



Students from the AVS Club share a table with The Santana Center at East Farm Day.

Bruce Graham engages an onlooker at East Farm Day about The Santana Center activities.



Our thanks to the generous contributors who donated prizes for the East Farm Day raffle and to the many folks who participated. And the winners are...

Prize

Goddard Park Trail Ride
Riding Lesson with Bruce Graham
Cap'n Bert Trawling Trip
Guide to Rhode Island's Natural Places Field Guide
Public Access to the Rhode Island Coast Guidebook
Guide to Marine Mammals & Turtles of the U.S. Atlantic & Gulf of Mexico Field Guide
Guide to Sharks, Tunas & Billfishes of the U.S. Atlantic & Gulf of Mexico Field Guide

Donor

Lee Phillips, C&L Stables
Bruce Graham
Kathy Castro, FAVS
Malia Schwartz, Rhode Island Sea Grant
Malia Schwartz, Rhode Island Sea Grant
Malia Schwartz, Rhode Island Sea Grant
Malia Schwartz, Rhode Island Sea Grant

Winner

Ruth Dane, Providence
Martha Day, Wakefield
Patrick Agnew, Warwick
Vida Griffin, Saunderstown
Bonnie England, Wakefield
Byron Fish, Peacedale
Martha Day, Wakefield

Horse Care Classes a Hands-on Experience

This past July, we successfully launched our first two courses for the general public—"Horses 101 for Parents" and "Basic Horse Care and Horsemanship." Offered in partnership with AVS and Cooperative Extension, both classes offered hands-on instruction and information on everything from horse care, nutrition, and safety to assessing your horse needs, buying/leasing your first horse, and finding a good riding teacher/barn for your child. An advisor for The Santana Center,

Dr. Ernie



Dr. Ernie Finocchio guides the class on basic horse safety. Jessica Smith and Stormy demonstrate.

Finocchio, R.I. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RISPCA) director, was lead instructor along with The Santana Center's Kathy Castro, Malia Schwartz,

Bruce Graham, and Jessica Smith. Dr. Finocchio's 30+ years of experience as an equine veterinarian proved invaluable! Katherine Petersson, URI fisheries,

animal and veterinary science (FAVS) assistant professor, lent a hand describing the ins and outs of horse feeding.



Kathy Castro (center, with Kaito) shows class participants how to take a horse's vital signs.

What You Can Do to Help

The Santana Center is actively pursuing grants and donations for the operations of the Center, including funds to:

- Invite guest speakers for workshops
- Upgrade classroom facilities
- Prepare educational fact sheets and brochures
- Support staff continuing education through attendance at workshops and seminars
- Rehabilitate rescued horses. This will require upgrading the current boarding facility
- Offset insurance costs, dues for professional memberships, operational expenses such as printing and mailing costs, and other day-to-day costs.

In addition, the Center needs volunteers to help with events. If you're interested in spending time around horses, please contact Kathy Castro at (401) 294-6614. We are also able to accept donations of your horse-related

tack, farm equipment, or other items for resale. Look for us on eBay!

Remember: Your donations to The Santana Center are **tax deductible!** Go to our website and use PAYPAL:

www.thesantanacenter.org. Or send checks directly to:

The Santana Center

51 Wood Sorrel Trail

Saunderstown, RI 02874

The Santana Center Helps with a Horse Rehabilitation Project

Aurora, a Thoroughbred mare, came to Kathy via her guardian angel, actress Dyan Kane, who lives in Los Angeles, Calif.

Aurora started out as a nervous wreck, severely underweight, and with lameness issues.

After several months on Kathy's special "put-on-weight" and training program, Aurora is healthy and sound. She is ready to be placed in a good home. She is high-spirited and needs a calm, reassuring rider. Since she has already had two careers—racing and jumping—she deserves a new home where she will be loved, ridden lightly, and



Aurora is now healthy and sound and looking for a good home.



Our first class of Horses 101 for Parents.

pampered. Kathy has started Aurora on trail rides, and she's coming along nicely. She is possibly 24 years old (tattoo is faded) and stands 16.2 hands. Please contact us if you are interested.

Dyan has actively pursued donations to support Aurora. But due to costs, The Santana Center will not be accepting more rehabilitation horses until adequate funding is in place. But we can link you to reputable rescues through our website. These organizations are also doing a tremendous service to the horse community.

Order On-line With Country Supply

When you order from Country Supply **on-line**, and designate "santanacenter" as the CARE code, they will donate 5% of the amount to the Santana Center! Check them out at: www.countrysupply.com

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c/o Malia Schwartz
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Save the Date

October 23, 2005

Emotional Freedom Techniques, Brain Gym and Riding

Instructor: Bruce Graham

www.equestrianperformance.com

Emotional Freedom Techniques (EFT) uses the body's subtle energies. EFT is a form of acupuncture. We tap with the fingertips to stimulate certain meridian points while the client is "tuned in" to the problem. Brain Gym includes targeted activities that integrate body and mind to bring about rapid improvements in concentration, listening, physical coordination, and more. How does this affect your riding?

Come and find out! Bring your horse to participate in the riding segment (rabies and negative Coggins proof required). *10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at URI Peckham Farm, Route 138, Kingston, R.I. \$25 per adult full course; \$15 for a.m. session, only; \$5 audit fee for p.m. session.*

November 20, 2005

Basic Horse Care and Horsemanship

Instructors: Dr. E.J. Finocchio, Kathy Castro, Bruce Graham, Malia Schwartz, Jessica Smith

Back by popular demand, this course offers information on what you should know about general horse care, feeding, stabling, trailering, and riding. Get tips on how to reduce costs and maximize the joy of owning (or maybe leasing) your own horse. There's also a new segment on getting ready for the New England winter. *9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at URI Peckham Farm, Route 138, Kingston, R.I. \$15 per adult.*

For more information and to register, call Kathy Castro at (401) 294-6614 or e-mail kcastro@uri.edu. More activities are being planned for 2006. Check out the news page on the website: www.thesantanacenter.org.

