

# Thera - PETS, INC.

648 Calkins Road Peru, NY 12972

September 2013

## Thera-Pets Board of Directors

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Rev. Dr. Kenneth Parker  
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### SUMMER NEWS

This has been a busy summer for Thera-Pets, there was the closing sessions of JJ for the summer months and the sad cancellation of the last planned session due to the death of a foal and his mother on the farm that morning. A tragic and sad day!!

The volunteers have travelled to Ticonderoga, Elizabethtown and locally to Plattsburgh bringing the donkeys to nursing homes and ARC home sites.

We are in the early stages of planning a second trip to Newtown CT/Sandy Hook area and are waiting to finalize the arrangements..

In addition the summer brings visitors to the farm on a regular basis. Kids Cove from Keeseville spent a morning at the farm and there are many parents and grandparents that stop by for the experience. Holly, Sue, Perry and Ken B. worked for hours and hours at the Clinton County Fair telling people about our program and about the donkeys. Meanwhile, Ken P. is getting ready to take donkeys to the Essex County Fair in Westport.

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## Upcoming Events

### Board and Member Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month

7pm Peru VFW Post 309

All welcome to attend

September 11<sup>th</sup> – General Membership Meeting

### Blessing of the Animals

October 6, 2013

Mother Cabrini Shrine

Patient Road Peru, NY

Father Shnob and Rev. Dr. Ken Parker

Enjoy the day with your furry family member

All are welcome.

## Fundraising

### **\*Soles for Souls**

Helping People, Our Planet and Our Organization

We have been collecting old sneakers all summer and thanks to all of you for digging deep in those closets and filling the collection boxes.

A big thank you to the Brownies, Girl Scouts, churches, schools and individuals who helped collect sneakers.

To date we have over 1500 pairs of sneakers ready for pickup.

\*For more information on the Soles for Souls

Effort please visit the website:

<http://www.butternutridgedonkeys.org/Therapetsnews.html>

### Autism Awareness of Vermont

At a fundraiser held in St. Albans, VT volunteers Janet Calkins along with her husband Richard and Tony Trombley greeted over 300 people at Memorial Park. \$200 was raised for Thera-Pets, Inc. as well as numerous pairs of sneakers collected.

### Autism Alliance

Thera-Pets, Inc. received a grant for \$970 to help continue our work with Autistic children and other disabilities.

### TD Bank

Thera-Pets, Inc is pleased to announce that TD Bank is now helping in our fundraising efforts.

Mention Thera-Pets, Inc. (code: AF254)

Get \$25 when you open a new non-interest bearing checking account.

Open any type of account and TD Bank will contribute to Thera-Pets, Inc.

### How It Works

TD Bank will make an annual contribution to Thera-Pets, Inc based on the activity of all participating members TD Bank accounts.

Eligible accounts include

- Checking – Business & Consumer
- Savings
- Money Market
- Certificate of Deposit
- Retirement

### Fundraising Potential

Checking Accounts

- \$50 for every new checking account
- \$10 for every existing checking account

Savings Accounts or CDs

- 1/10 of 1% contribution based upon your participants annual average balances

If you are already a TD Bank Customer, visit any one of TD Bank locations and ask to have your balances included as part of Thera-Pets, Inc. Affinity Membership Program.

**We would love to hear any thoughts or suggestions you have for fundraising ideas.**

## Of Interest

This summer Butternut Ridge Farm donkeys were out and about showing at several fairs in NY and VT.

Donkeys were judged not only in conformation and Breed classes but also competed in several driving and “games” classes. These included trail and obstacle courses, ground driving, cart driving, coon jumping and snigging.

Besides the numerous ribbons and awards taken home by BR donkeys and their owners it was the smiles and the fun of spending a day with your donkey that was the biggest prize of all.

Preparing and training your donkey for show is a lot of work but well worth the effort.



Frosty and Fay relaxing at the Clinton County Fair

## Snigging

Snigging is an Australian word for dragging a load behind an equine. Snigging is done by driving a donkey, pulling a log. The donkey wears a harness; the traces of the harness are attached to an evener bar, which is attached to a log. The handler then ground drives the donkey, dragging the log safely behind. The course for snigging is a line of five cones, which must be serpentine through, both out and back. The distance between the cones is twelve (12) feet, with the start/ finish line fifteen (15) feet from the first cone. This is a times event. However, if any cones are displaced, a penalty is applied to you time. Fastest time wins.



Holly Besaw puts Copper thru the Snigging course at Essex County Fair.

If you have a Butternut Ridge donkey we'd love to hear about them and perhaps feature them in our next newsletter.

*If the first thing you hear in the morning is a donkey's bray, make a wish and it will come true.*

- English proverb

## **Jonathan's Journey**

A new session of Jonathan's Journey started on September 7<sup>th</sup>. The group meets every other Saturday till the end of the year. We have a great group of kids and are looking forward an exciting Fall. The group is currently filled but a few openings May be available. Please contact [therapets@yahoo.com](mailto:therapets@yahoo.com) if you are interested in joining or volunteering.

## **News From The Farm**

Foaling Season has begun. Butternut Ridge welcomed a beautiful grey-dun jack foal born to Vincenza On 8/25/13, Butternut Ridge "Gabriel".



Jane gave birth to a beautiful black jack on 9/8/13, Butternut Ridge "Gus".



Both foals have been sold to a wonderful home where they will be doing therapy work with a group of Autistic children.

We have two jennets due to foal at the end of October beginning of November.

Did you know you can watch live? Visit the foaling cam at our website.

[http://www.butternutridgedonkeys.org/foaling\\_cam.html](http://www.butternutridgedonkeys.org/foaling_cam.html)

Visit the website see all the other new additions to the farm. Our two new alpacas are adjusting well and we have a fascinating variety of chickens and ducks.



## Labor Day Parade

Town of Moriah Labor Day Parade



(left to right)

Tony Trombley & “Cleo”, Holly Besaw & “Ellie”  
Sue Lamoy & “Faith”, Perry Lamoy & “Celeste”

A big thank you to all our volunteers who have come out to help with events all summer long.

## New Members

A big welcome to all our new members...

Dr, Wayne Anderson  
Joshua Besaw  
Dustin Besaw  
Tami and David Blinn  
Janet and Richard Calkins  
Janet and Thomas Calkins  
Christina Calkins  
Jeremy and Mary Calkins  
Jeff Calkins  
Fred Chase  
AJ Davis  
Marlene Delaney  
Debbie Henry  
Jordon Hicks  
Laurie Kimbler  
Tresah Mcbrath  
Holly Nephew  
Brook Reed  
Richard and Kimberly Williams  
Cindy Ziegler

