



# Roundup



## Newsletter of Wilderwood Equine Therapy and Rescue

### From the Roundyard



Wilderwood is proud to announce our adult program Hautism is at capacity for the summer, with bookings coming in for Fall 2022 as well as Spring 2023. We are excited about the program as it is the first iteration of the new, compressed version – enabling autistic women from across the United States to attend, as well as from New Mexico. The E/ASEL program for autistic children/youth is in full swing for the Summer, with Fall dates being September 8 to October 29. In other news, I was extremely honored to be recently awarded the Bob Thomas Achievement Award at The Arc conference in Albuquerque.

### Volunteer Spotlight! Shari Barone, Volunteer Teaching Assistant



*Rebecca*



“I volunteer at Wilderwood because I really love kids. I also have a teaching license and enjoy spending time with kids, so I thought this would be a good opportunity to learn how to better interact with autistic children in the classroom. Also, I really wanted to learn more about horses, so I thought it would be a great way to learn and experience that – and be part of a great community.”

*Shari is one of our amazing Teaching Assistants at Wilderwood and volunteers in the E/ASEL (Equine/Autistic Social Emotional Learning) program.*

Stables Spotlight! *Del Toro (aka "Digger")* 



Del Toro, aka "Digger," is the newest resident of Wilderwood. An absolutely gorgeous Spanish Arabian, he is by the incredible Arabian stallion Delerio out of La Linda. His impressive lineage includes Jaffar, Galreo, Maquillo, Zalema, and Sirio IV. Trained in dressage, hunter/jumper, and trail riding, this lovely boy has a temperament that is calm and even — and he loves people! At approximately 14.2 hands, he's the smallest of our horses, and we like to say that due to his coloring he is a "mini-Odie."



The Spanish Arabian horses, of which Del Toro is one, are recognizable by their athletic ability, strong bones, and supple neck. Their eyes are large and kind, and they are "known for their incredible dispositions [including] their calm mind and quiet fire."



Some of you have asked about Del Toro's "stable name" of "Digger." It refers to the affectionate name given to Australian soldiers from WW1. The "digger" was known for his courage and bravery, while still keeping a down-to-earth approach and belief in the egalitarian idea that one man (or woman) is as good as the next. The word has come to be synonymous with an Australian legend: a part of the lexicon that stands for many things that are good about people, including integrity, practicality, hard work, loyalty, dependability, and a kind heart.

We think the stable name name Digger fits Del Toro perfectly!

Sponsoring "Digger"

If you would like to sponsor Digger, whether that's donating a fixed amount every month to help pay for his feed, or you'd like to volunteer to be his groom on certain days each month, we'd love to hear from you! Please email with the subject "Sponsoring Digger" to: [office@wilderwoodequinetherapy.org](mailto:office@wilderwoodequinetherapy.org)

Calendar



**E/ASEL:** Autistic children and youth (8-18)  
 Fall 2022: September 28–November 16  
 Spring 2023: March 9–April 27  
 Summer 2023: June 15–August 5



**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!**

A limited number of scholarships available for:

**Hautism:** Autistic adults program (18+)  
 Summer 2022: August 20–August 26  
 Fall 2022: November 1–November 7  
 Spring 2023: May 8–May 14  
 Summer 2023: August 14–August 20



- EA/SEL
- Hautism



**Fairies and Unicorns Fundraising Day:**

Our annual fundraising event, themed each year. For 2022, come and enjoy the magic of Wilderwood's "back lands" with fairies and unicorns! **Sunday, October 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**



**Calling All Writers!**



Wilderwood’s new project is inviting submissions for the Wilderwood Blog. We are looking especially for autistic writers and artists to submit short stories, poems, artwork, or narrative and/or opinion pieces. We want to hear, promote, and share authentic autistic voices. Length should be limited to 2,500 words. Contributors can publish under their own names or are welcome to use a pen-name. Send submissions or inquiries with “Wilderwood Blog” in the subject line to: [office@wilderwoodequinetherapy.org](mailto:office@wilderwoodequinetherapy.org).

**Community Mentors and Volunteers Wanted!**



Do you have a special skill, interest, craft, or talent you’d like to share with autistic people? Want to help inspire and motivate youth and make a difference in their lives and in your community? If so, we want to hear from you! For more information and/or to register your interest in volunteering, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator Lindsey Lopez at [wilderwoodvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:wilderwoodvolunteer@gmail.com).

**Wilderwood’s Store!**



Another way to support Wilderwood is to shop at our store. Pick up some beautiful Wilderwood branded T-shirts, caps, sweatshirts, coffee cups, and other goods, including a signed and personalized copy of Rebecca’s memoir *Joy*. Come by and select something that shows your Wilderwood pride! We also have a variety of horse equipment, including halters, bridles, and saddle pads – all gently used – at excellent prices. Perfect for those just starting out with horses. All proceeds benefit Wilderwood.

**Upcoming Volunteer Training Dates**

**Dates to train our new volunteers:**

Saturday, July 30  
Saturday, October 22

**Upcoming Volunteer Activity Days**

**Dates for community members to work on projects:**

Saturday, September 17  
Saturday, November 19

**Come be part of Wilderwood!**

**Volunteer Application:** Equine Assistants, Teaching Assistants, Community Mentors

**EA/SEL Application:** Program for Autistic Children/Youth (aged 8+)

**Hautism Application:** Program for Autistic Adults

**Donate to Wilderwood:** Cash , goods, or services are welcomed and appreciated!

**Write for Wilderwood:** For autistic writers or artists, email: [office@wilderwoodequinetherapy.org](mailto:office@wilderwoodequinetherapy.org)

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