



# THERAPEUTIC HORSEMANSHIP REVIEW

## THE MECHANICAL LIFT

In January 2012, Ride-Like- A- Knight (RLAK) had a lift installed. The lift was purchased and installed through The Elizabeth Fund, a fund that was created to aid in supplying educational benefits to students and riders. The lift was purchased to allow the instructors in training a chance to be exposed to a lift, be educated on the use of the lift and learn how to train a horse to accept the lift. The purchase of the lift opens up the program to more riders. Physically lifting people onto a horse can be a lot of strain on the instructor's body; using the lift to place them onto the horse provides a safe and easy way of doing this.

## NATIONAL, REGIONAL & SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION DAY CONFERENCES

Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.) hosts a National conference once a year; the location varies year to year. The National conference consists of region meetings, a standards meeting and voting, two full days of different speakers, a banquet dinner for the yearly awards, and a horse expo day. These conferences give students an outside look at the Therapeutic Horsemanship world along with the chance to meet amazing contacts within the PATH Intl. world.

The Regional conferences are smaller and closer. St. Andrews is in Region 3 along with West Virginia, Virginia, South Carolina and North Carolina so the meeting bounces around within those states. The regional conference is one and a half days of various speakers, state meetings and a horse expo at the host facility. The state meetings are nice because "they allow you to meet local instructors and make contacts that are within the area as well as allowing the states to meet individually" said Senior Hillary Woronik.

South Carolina has held an education day two years in a row. The morning is full of different speakers and the afternoon is spent at the host facility. This day is open to the whole region but the majority of attendees are those closest to the host facility along with a few others from farther away.

"Conferences are always educational. It is a place to keep making connections with others and visit with people we already know within the industry. The past conferences are a little different for me as a staff member than when I was a student. For example being able to voice my opinion more on standards voting within meetings" said Ride-Like-A-Knight Program Director Liz Dulski.

RLAK participant Milee Huffman won National Child of the Year 2011 (twelve and under) at the 2011 PATH Int. I Conference. Representatives from St. Andrews included Pebbles Turbeville Director, Therapeutic Horsemanship and Chair of Equine Studies, RLAK Program Director, Elizabeth Dulski and students: Olivia Taylor, Rachel McGarvey, Sarah Lishen, and Hillary Woronik..

**Milee is seen here receiving her award at the conference.**





## THE ELIZABETH FUND

The Elizabeth fund was created in 2011 when a snow storm rerouted Joe Junod and his wife Marilyn Greene past St. Andrews on their way home to Florida. Joe is an alumnus of St. Andrews and wanted to show his wife, an avid equestrian all her life, the equestrian center at St. Andrews. Their visit to the equestrian center coincided with the RLAK's annual spring horse show. What they saw at the center was inspiring and humbling to them both since they are committed to assisting programs that help people with disabilities. The couple decided to donate \$25,000 to the program starting what is known as The Elizabeth Fund. This fund was named in dedication to their mothers who were both "Elizabeth's" and who were also dedicated to helping others with disabilities. The fund was created to help the students, faculty and staff of St. Andrews attend educational opportunities and support the riders and horses that make up the program.

Since The Elizabeth Fund has been created it has supported students in attending conferences along with providing the funds to purchase the mechanical lift which is placed in an entrance to the indoor area. Future plans for the Elizabeth Fund includes purchasing a horse in 2013 that can serve larger riders and Veterans.

## SANDY'S VISIT

Sandy Webster is a phenomenal woman. She is a PATH Intl. Master Instructor, a Canadian Therapeutic Riding Association Coach and an International Program Consultant. Sandy was recently awarded the James Brady Award at the 2012 PATH Intl. national conference in Seattle, Washington. The James Brady Professional Achievement Award is the highest honor PATH Intl. bestows each year. It is given to a person who has made tremendous contributions to the equine-assisted activities and therapies field and has promoted the industry in outstanding ways.

Sandy will be visiting RLAK twice a semester, once in the beginning and once near the end, to be an outside evaluator to the instructors in training along with being a mentor for the overall program. "Sandy has a lot to offer to instructors and we, as instructors, should take the chance to learn from one of PATH's greats while we have the opportunity" said Senior Hillary Woronick.



**Director of Therapeutic Horsemanship Pebbles Turbeville driving Manly the Mini**

### PATH Intl. CONFERENCES

2010 Denver CO – 4 students attended  
 2011 Kentucky Horse Park – 4 students attended  
 2012 Seattle, WA – 2 students attended

### REGION 3 CONFERENCES

2011 Williamsburg VA  
 2012 Charlotte, NC

