



HORSE SENSE

Federal 501(c)(3) # 86-0927834

PLEASE - Help us save time and money
by providing your current e-mail address - Thanks
Follow us on Facebook

December 2020

Happy Holidays

from

Chris

Afire, Stetson

Dakota, Freckles and Liber-T

Session 3 Classes will begin the week of January 3rd

Thank You for Your Support

*Amazon Smile, T Beebe, Bell Family, K Bock, Boeing ECA,
P&L Brisnehan, P Cocklin, Changing Hands Bookstore, D
Drinovsky, R&L Grabau, P Heller, MaryAnn Hirschberg,
Honeywell ECA, Hudson Family, K Hust, Julie Keahey
Charitable Fund, Kroger Foods, Labbe Family, B Mackey,
Malena Family, J McGivern, C Midura, E Migala,
Montalvo Family, Morris Family, A&S Muecke, Royal
Arabians, Safeway, Smith Family, M Stevenson, D
Stiglich, In Memory of Kathy Tegarden, J Vogelmann,
Walmart, B&R Wilke, K&D Wilke, A Williams, Lisa
Wintermantel Memorial Rider Scholarship*

Tax Deductions and Donations -

This year, we ask that you make your year-end charitable donation to Stable Influence. Your gift directly helps people in **Our Community**. You can donate to our 100 for \$100 Campaign, help fill our Poop Bucket with \$10 bills, Adopt a Horse, Sponsor a Rider. Every donation goes to helping our riders be successful.

Volunteers - REMEMBER - Your mileage can give you a cents-per-mile deduction at tax time.

Support Us On Giving Tuesday

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, December 1st! Donations made EARLY through Facebook to Stable Influence Charity Programs on the 1st could be matched by Facebook! That's right! Your donation could be doubled when made at Facebook during #GivingTuesday!

<https://fb.com/fund/Stable-Influence-Charity-Programs-Therapeutic-Horseback-Riding-EAAT-299984728486/>

In addition to your contributions, you can also give back by sharing our social media posts and emails. Mark your calendars!

Black Friday is here -

Do you shop on line? www.smile.amazon.com/ch/86-0927834 or iGive.com e-Malls make a donation to Stable Influence when you shop. We all WIN. Just searching the iGive.com e-Mall will rack up donations for Stable Influence

Do you shop at Fry's Food Stores? Enroll your **Fry's VIP Card - #BH909** at www.FrysCommunityRewards.com - so the purchases you make anyway can also help our riders.

HELP ADD RIDERS AND VOLUNTEERS

We are continuing to offer our services during this challenging time with Covid-19. Please share our program with anyone you know who may benefit from our services. Referrals are wonderful. Each year several new riders and volunteers are added because of a referral. Riders are why we are here. Share your experience with others so they can find us. We have riders and volunteers from FOREVER and some just starting. Our volunteers want to keep busy with more riders to help. Volunteers are always needed at each site. Tell your story to your friends, care givers, doctors and therapists. They may know someone who could benefit from therapeutic riding or would like to help out. Your Equine Assisted Activities experiences and volunteer opportunities bring participants to us. You can help to fill the extra rider spaces. Thank you to those who have referred friends to us. We are here to help. Spread the word - There are people out there we can help, they just don't know how to find us.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Chris Hudson
Vice President - Bob Stapleton
Secretary/Treasurer - Craig Hudson

REMEMBER -

IF YOU SHOP ON LINE -
NO MATTER WHAT STORE
Please . . . SHOP THROUGH
Smile.Amazon.com, iGive.com or Goodsearch.com

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE'S LIFE

Donate on Giving Tuesday through Facebook to double your donation - but you have to act fast and early
<https://fb.com/fund/Stable-Influence-Charity-Programs-Therapeutic-Horseback-Riding-EAAT-299984728486/>

Enroll your Fry's VIP Card - Contribute to our 100 for \$100 Campaign

Support a Rider or Adopt a Horse - Add to our Poop Bucket Challenge \$10

Kids Cooking

Liber-T's - To Rum , or not to Rum , Balls

1 C Vanilla Wafers - Crushed
1 C Nuts - Chopped
1 C Confectioner's Sugar

½ T or more Corn Syrup
2 t Cocoa Powder
Optional - 1/3 C Rum

Mix together and form into balls. Roll in sugar and freeze.

YOUR SUPPORT KEEPS STABLE INFLUENCE RIDING

You do Shop On Line !!!

You Do Browse the Internet !!!

Of course you do - everyone does. Choose to shop at one of these e-malls, Smile.Amazon.com or iGive.com and you will send donations to Stable Influence Riders. How easy is that? Convenient "shopping windows" you can down load to automatically see if your on-line store is in their mall I do all my on line shopping through these malls and saved bunches of money, all the while supporting SICP. A WIN WIN for everyone.

Amazon shoppers - Smile.Amazon.com - choose Stable Influence - \$474 so far. So if you shop through Amazon, add a Smile and help increase the donations.

iGive.com - SICP Member ID 236967& Cause ID 17372 - \$383 so far.

POOP BUCKET CAMPAIGN - No - you don't have to dump a bucket of horse poop - but we want to fill a poop bucket with \$10 donations to help care for our amazing horses. In addition to paying for board for our horses, we must trim their feet every 7 weeks, we supplement their diet with grain to keep them healthy and need yearly vet work - like floating their teeth.

Support for our horses is \$300 per month for each of them. Afire, Dakota, Freckles, Liber-T and Stetson will sure appreciate the sponsorship.

100 for \$100 Plus - Still Trying

We've gotten more donations, but still need 66 more people to finish our - 00 for \$100 Campaign. Let's get this campaign completed.

We have received donations from 34 folks - Thank you to those who donated. I know there are 66 more folks who can donate \$100 to meet our goal They are out there and just need to be asked. Help complete our campaign this year.

Supporters - Please Support !!

Got GROCERIES ???

Fry's shoppers help us every time they shop.

When you enroll your Fry's VIP card on line for Stable Influence Fry's sends us a portion of \$2M for all the Phoenix area non-profit organizations enrolled each year. Our portion depends on how many shoppers shop for us. Help us add many more shoppers to enroll for SICP.

Go to: www.FrysCommunityRewards.com - now while you're thinking of it - Select 'Create an Account' and follow the directions. SICP Fry's Number is BH909.

Ask your friends and family through Facebook and Twitter to enroll. Every time you shop you help our riders.. We have received \$3,925 from Fry's since May 2012. **This works all over the country and in ACME, Jewel-Osco, SavOn, Supersaver Foods, Shaws and of course Albertsons stores.** Fry's VIP card works at all Kroger owned stores in the country.

APS, Honeywell, Motorola, Boeing and ??? companies provide grants to organizations their employees support. But you have to ask. In the past, APS, Boeing, Motorola all have supported their employees in their support of us. Check with your company and ask for their

The Christmas Treasure Hunt

by Chris Hudson

It was a few days before Christmas and Diamond was getting very excited - she had been thinking about Christmas fun for several months. She had come up with PLANS for a fun time for everyone. But, she needed help.

Late at night Diamond called the dogs, Venus, Midas, Minerva and Bellana over to ask for their assistance. Minerva's puppies - so many puppies - jumped up and down and begged to help. Diamond wanted to set up a Treasure Hunt for all the other horses as a surprise for Christmas Eve.

Dakota and Freckles noticed some "activity" over in the corner and could hear whispering - day and night, but they just couldn't quite make out what was going on. Diamond and Liber-T told them there was nothing going on - just normal horsie stuff.

The dogs got to work. The horses noticed all the running around. Liber-T, "It's what the dogs and puppies do - run and play until they curl up and sleep. There is nothing going on." Freckles was not so sure and said so. Diamond told her not to pay any attention to it.

Then it came, Christmas Eve. Chris and Craig returned from Mesa with Afire and Stetson as guests for the holiday. On the way home, they picked up Rocker and Wasabi from next door. Everyone got a nice scratch and some special carrots and apples that evening. They ate contentedly and as midnight approached, lay down for a nice snooze under the stars.

All of a sudden Midas, Bellana, Venus, Minerva and her puppies came to the pen - each dog had a bucket in their mouth while the puppies teamed up to carry a few more. They put their buckets down outside the pen.

Bellana and Midas disappeared into the darkness. The 4 curious ones, Afire, Stetson, Wasabi and Dakota jumped up and ran to the fence. "What's all this?" Diamond called after them

"You'll find out soon enough," Venus said with a hint of fun in her voice.

A short time later Bellana and Midas returned, each one carrying another bucket, which they put down beside the first ones. By this time, even Freckles, Rocker and Liber-T were curious and had gotten up and joined the other four by the fence.

Diamond was jumping up and down by now she just couldn't wait any longer. Midas open his gate and let her out. She ran over to the grouping of buckets and reared very high to make an impression. She explained to the other 5 what was going to happen. "In each bucket is a note describing something on the property. Each one of you has to take their bucket and find the treasure. The first one who brings back their prize -

wins."

Liber-T who has seen everything asked, "What is the prize?" "Ahhh - That's for me to know and you to find out - but it will be worth it," exclaimed Diamond with a flourish of her head. All the dogs jumped around with her as excited as she was.

Minerva opened the big pen gate and let everyone out. Each horse put their nose in the bucket and read their Treasure Note. Each was to find something different.

They all grabbed their bucket and disappeared around the property. But, there was one bucket left. Diamond looked at the last bucket and said "What is this one for?" Bellona smiled and wagged her tail, "It's for you!" Diamond jumped to the bucket and looked inside to see what her Treasure was. "The pink squeek ball! Yeah, I love playing with that!" she exclaimed as she ran out to search for her prize.

There was a flurry around the property and pretty soon the horses began to make their way back to the pen. Dakota had a knotted rope, Stetson brought back a cone, Liber-T found a tree branch. And so it went until everyone was back - except for Diamond.

They all stood and looked around trying to see where she was. All they could hear was a strangely familiar squeeking. Finally Afire called out, "There she is. I see her star coming our way!" Along with the star the squeeking got louder and louder.

Midas and the puppies laughed as Diamond came up to the group with their pink squeak ball in her mouth. She was having too much fun making music by squeezing the ball in her teeth. Bellona smiled and said, "I taught her to do that."

"Well," said Diamond, "I was the last one here - who was first?" Each of the horses looked around - they all knew that sly Liber-T was the first one back, but before anyone could speak, Midas cleared his throat and paused a moment. "It was a tie. Everyone got back at the same time. So, everyone gets a prize." He and Venus went into the hay shed and brought out bags of horsie treats, carrots and apples for everyone to share.

"We're not quite done yet." Diamond had one more trick to share and went to the little shed. She slid the door open and put a bag of doggie bones out on the ground for all her helpers.

"Everyone is a winner tonight!"

*Merry Christmas to all and
to all a Good Night!"*

STATE OF THE STABLE

What a crazy year 2020 was. Our 23rd year is almost half way gone. The 2020 Holiday Season is fast approaching and it has a very different look from past years. We say thank you to everyone who has supported us this past year. I wish all of you a wonderful holiday season. I pray 2021 will settle down. Stay safe and have a prosperous 2021 as we navigate through the changes all around us.

This spring, Covid-19 hit the world and changed everything around us. Stable Influence was on the list of "essential businesses" as we provide therapy and exercise to people with special needs. Also, we are operating outside where we all are safer from contacting the virus. We asked our families and volunteers what they would feel comfortable doing and the results were - sanitize frequently touched surfaces, everyone sanitize their hands when they leave their vehicle, don't come if you are sick, and wear a mask if you want. I really wanted to be able to see people's faces to be able to see if someone was in distress and since we are usually pretty far apart and out in the open air, I didn't want to require masks. So, that was the plan and many riders and volunteers continued to participate through the spring, summer and now the fall.

I thought Summer 2019 was a hot one, but Summer 2020 beat it, mercury up. Only 3 riders rode in August in Mesa and half of the rides were canceled due to excessive, over 110, heat. This was the first time in 20 years we did not have New River riders for the summer. Our 23rd ride year began in September and we welcomed 5 new riders - all in Mesa. We then added another 2 in Mesa and one in Peoria for a total of 19 by the end of November. Due to Covid-19, at least 8 riders are unable to ride. Once they return, our numbers will be pretty good. We have classes in Mesa on Mondays and Thursdays and in Peoria on Wednesdays. There are no riders at this time in New River.

Those riders who can, are learning to play with their horses on the ground before mounting up - called "On-Line", which helps them learn to observe how their horse moves and to guide them to do tasks. Riders learn when to be quiet, when to ask for more and it also improves their balance. Parents say they see lots of improvements and really like the ground work. Atlas, Elijah, Elizabeth, Julia, Irish, Lauryan, Liam, Maya, and Oliver are improving or learning on-line skills - which is helping their mounted skills and posture Audrey and Ruth are just starting some on-line play, A few riders only ride, and riding continues to help them improve their balance and focus - Andorra, Audrey, Daniel, Jenny, LoriAnne, Natalie, Phillip and Sue

Officers - Chris, Craig and Bob continue to keep everything running smoothly.

Staff - Instructors, Chris is our only instructor at this time since Barb retired December 2019. Elaine, Jay, Laura, Shelby and Shyrl help with horse care/training in Mesa. Chris works horses 3 or 4 days a week as well as handling daily cleaning pens and feeding the herd in New River.

Horses - Would you like to Adopt a Horse and get "Carrot Privileges". In Mesa - Afire joined our Mesa "herd" in December 2019. In his past life he was a high-powered show horse and more recently spent 6 years on a dude ranch in New Mexico. He is learning what his new life here is and thanks to Jay is doing well. He is just about the size of Indie, but has more active movement which benefits our riders who need that more active input. Stetson has really settled over the past year and is working very well with all his riders. His bigger and slower movement is great for riders needing slower movement. He is an ongoing project. Stetson is now the horse with quiet movement. Freckles and Liber-T work in Peoria. Freckles', with her medium movement, is the best horse for riders starting to ride independently. Since she really doesn't want to go too fast it gives those riders time to process. But if they are ready - so is she. Liber-T, still wants riders to "do it right". This can be frustrating at times, but the payoff when the

"right" thing is learned by her rider is amazing. Liber-T's big movement is very helpful for riders who are very "busy". They are seeking movement - so move on their own, but when Liber-T gives it to them, they are better able to concentrate - it's quite wonderful to see the riders calm when riding. She still seeks the littlest riders and wants a cuddle from each. Dakota is in between. With her nice wide back she gives those needing support the movement and broad support they require. Dakota is gaining confidence and trust each year as many different folks play with her - the right way. Horse upkeep costs have remained stable this year. Horse board in Mesa is being donated by Royal Arabians. Once we are back up with riders, we can catch up on the New River board that has been put aside the past couple of years. Monthly costs for our horses, no matter how many riders we have, never drops or ends - the Equine Dentist's is due (about \$700), they get grain and supplements and every 7 weeks get their feet trimmed. We have 2 horses in Mesa and 3 in New River. Thank you Royal Arabians, Morris family and Hudsons for supporting our horses this past year.

Program - Our spring 2020 gave us rain and Strangles which cut our riding times. Some riders from our Peoria site opted to ride in New River for several weeks. Then Covid-19 hit hard and riders in group and foster homes were unable to come to ride. Rider costs for last year were up. We have not raised rates, but didn't pay our instructor or New River horse board. We are currently just meeting our basic costs, and have very little reserve for emergencies. We did not receive any large donations this past year except for the Lisa Wintermantel Memorial Ridership Fund and of course the gift of horse board from Royal Arabians. The donations we did receive have gone to good use. New riders join us each year and we welcomed 8 new riders in Mesa which has been in a rider drought for the past several years and 1 new rider in Peoria. Some riders, SIGH, move along because they achieved their goals and are ready for new things - but that's a good thing. Our basic costs usually remain pretty stable. Horses cost - - what horses cost. If there are not enough riders to share the costs more donations are needed to fill the gap or we must increase rider fees. All our riders have always paid a discounted fee to mirror what anyone would pay for a riding lesson - and as a non-profit, we can receive donations to bridge our expenses. We currently have no riders on scholarships or sponsorships. Those riders who would be eligible are unable to ride due to Covid-19 restrictions. We have a scholarship fund what would be able to help once things open up. We get many calls to ask about our program. Folks are all excited to start until they find out there are fees. We cannot serve them without donations for scholarships. Fundraising and donations keep fees down for riders and provide the difference. Our classes at Soft Wind Riding Club and Royal Arabians are going well. Thank you Amanda and MaryAnn. And, of course, Craig for your support this past year

I do a Facebook posts each week to keep everyone updated and just for grins and giggles, I put up fun pictures and news. Share your stories and information with everyone you know. Spread the word of how our riders are minimizing their challenges by riding in our program through the work our volunteers do. Jot a message and share your story for everyone to enjoy. People don't know of the miracles you have seen our riders achieve unless you share stories.

Fundraisers: Fry's (Kroger) shoppers continue to shop for us. You can join the 29 families who have enrolled their Fry's VIP Card and help to increase donations. Enroll your VIP card at www.FrysCommunityRewards.com and select Stable Influence (#BH909). Every time you shop at Fry's, SICP shares the \$2M they have for Community Rewards in our area. Facebook is partnered with PayPal and is matching donations made through Facebook up to \$7 Million on #Giving Tuesday - but you have to be fast and early to get the matching funds. Go to the following link to donate:

<https://fb.com/fund/Stable-Influence-Charity-Programs-Therapeutic-Horseback-Riding-EAAT-299984728486/>

As with all non-profits, we must always look to have more fundraisers to bridge the gap between riders fees and costs to do our program. Got a fund raising idea - share it with us? You know - if each one our Supporters gifted us \$10 for our Poop Bucket Challenge and found 5 friends to join in, we would be well on our way to easily support our amazing horses.

If you like - you can Adopt a Horse to support one of our horses, or you can send a gift for our Horse Board Fund, add to our Poop Bucket Campaign or add to our 100 for \$100 Campaign so we can continue our mission to help riders with special needs.

Donations - Thank you for your continued support - Royal Arabians, the Smith Family, the Hudson's who support Liber-T and have been supporting Dakota and Freckles this past several years, the Morris family who help support Stetson. Thank you to those who supported our Ghost Horse Show. Thank you to all the Fry's and Smile.Amazon shoppers, Boeing employees and Honeywell employees. Even little donations help, so keep spreading the word. Thank you to all who have donated this past year. See Page 1. Donations this calendar year were \$12,712, which was less than last year by \$3,000. We would like to see donations double.

Horse Show - The horse show last year would have been our 22nd. We had a theme, a show logo and were ready to get t-shirts made when Covid-19 hit so hard our country was closed down. We did some special events for our riders during their classes, but the show had to be canceled. We depend on the donations from the show to help us make it through the summer when we don't have as many riders. But, looking at what is happening in the world, I don't know if we will be able to have a show this coming year. Thank you to everyone who donated to our Ghost Horse Show. We received \$762 from all Ghost donors. We usually receive between \$2,500 and \$3,500, so it hit us hard.

Well, that's all for this year. As I said at the beginning - let's all pray for a better and more stress-free 2021. Stay safe and stay healthy.

Chris

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Where Can You Find One?

Draw a line from the animal to the place where it might be:

puppy

nest

deer

ocean

bird

doghouse

cat

forest

worm

barn

dolphin

pillow

horse

underground

Calling Riders, Volunteers and Supporters - Find ONE New Donor

Can everyone find us one new donor in 2021? Supporters, volunteers and riders, please share stories and ask people and businesses you know to support Stable Influence. Many companies and people are looking to make a true difference in the lives of another. Our riders, volunteers and parents benefit by participating in our program. By sharing a story about Stable Influence and asking for a small donation - they may decide to help out. It just may happen. Although our riders pay a fee for services, it only covers 55% of the cost to run our program. All non-profit programs rely and depend on donations to continue their mission - our mission is to offer the best in therapeutic riding. Fund raising and donations bridge the 45% difference between rider fees and our program costs. But, 45% is a big bridge to cross. We never waste a penny and don't buy it if we don't have the money. We keep our costs down by not owning property and having wonderful volunteer help. Now is a great time you can help increase our donor base. And by donating through Facebook - they will match it making it even better. All donations go directly to helping our riders. Use social media - Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn to share our stories and our requests for support. There are people out there just waiting to be asked to support an organization like ours. Find those folks and let them know we are here.

Mark Your Calendar - 2020-2021

December 19	Break - Merry Christmas - No Class until week of January 3
January	Horse Show and Committee to be determined - Maybe
January 3	Session 3 Classes Begin
February 14	Session 4 Classes Begin - 7-Weeks - No break due to horse show March 27
February-March ??	Twenty-Second Annual Horse Show - Sponsorships and Assistance Requested
March 27	Twenty-Second Annual Horse Show - Stay Tuned
April 4	Session 4 Break - 1 Week
April 11	Session 5 Classes Begin - 7-Weeks
May 30	Memorial Day Break
June 6	Session 6 Classes Begin - 7 Week Summer Session

I WANT TO Help Stable Influence

YOU play a major role in the continued success of SICP through your tax deductible contribution. THANK YOU - your support makes a CRITICAL DIFFERENCE in the lives of Andra, Atlas, Audrey, Daniel, Elijah, Irish, Jenny, Julia, Lauryan, Liam, LoriAnne, Maya, Natalie, Oliver, Phillip, Ruth, and Sue. Donations in any amount helps guarantee our riders will continue to benefit from the proven benefits of therapeutic riding.

Sponsorship:

_____	\$10 - Newsletter Sponsor
_____	\$10 - Poop Bucket Challenge
_____	\$25-\$199 - Friend of Stable Influence
_____	\$200 - \$499 - Supporter of Stable Influence
_____	100 for \$100 Campaign
_____	\$ _____ Horse Board Sponsor
_____	\$1,500 - Insurance Sponsor
_____	\$ _____ A monthly pledge contribution
_____	\$ _____ Other Donation

Sponsorships for a Person with a Disability:

_____	\$420 - Six-Week Riding Session
_____	\$2,940 - 42 Week Riding Session

Other:

_____	\$300 - Adopt-A-Horse for a Month
_____	\$3,600 - Adopt a Horse for a Year
_____	\$25 - Horse Show Class Sponsor
_____	\$50 - Horse Show Award Sponsor
_____	\$100 - Horse Show Division Sponsor

Please mail your contribution to: Stable Influence Charity Programs, P. O. Box 54006, Phoenix, AZ 85078-4006