



LAS CAMPANAS COMPADRES

People Helping People Reach New Heights

February 10, 2010

Dear Friends of Las Campanas Compadres,

2009 was a challenging year on a number of fronts. We were forced to suspend our riding and swimming programs for six weeks during the Las Campanas furlough when the Club's facilities were temporarily closed. A harsh economic climate has challenged all charities and we have witnessed the closure of several well established charities locally. The needs of the community, however, do not go away. In fact, today's economy has pushed more families into desperate financial straights. State budgets are strained and programs are being severely cut back. This is having a direct and meaningful impact on families with special needs members. There are less programs being made available by the state and less money to go around. Las Campanas Compadres fulfills a need that is now greater than ever.

2009 In Review

We are very proud of our achievements. In many ways the program has exceeded our wildest expectations. Since its inception in May 2007, the program has underwritten 950 riding and 450 swimming lessons. Our student and volunteer numbers continue to grow. We have approximately 30 students on our roster and we continue to receive applications from prospective students every week.

Georgia Smith, our riding instructor, and David Caldwell, our swimming instructor, have both done an incredible job for us. We can't thank them enough for their continued enthusiasm and tireless efforts.

We started a fishing program in 2009. We were able to secure the use of a delightful fishing pond at Bishops Lodge in return for cleaning up the pond and stocking it with fish. The program has been a great success and we hope to expand it during 2010. We owe a particular debt of gratitude to those volunteers who helped us clean out the pond and to Rich Verunni, General Manager of Bishop's Lodge, and his staff. Most importantly, we could never have launched this program without the support of Ken Dettlebach and Pam Scotty of the Los Pescadores Fly Fishing Club. Ken and Pam introduced us to Bishops Lodge, sourced the fish to stock the pond (which they managed to have donated), and showed up on every Saturday morning that fishing took place to give lessons and encouragement to our students.

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A Registered 501 (c) 3 Corporation



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Last years Annual Awards Event took place in the fall and was a great success. We awarded medallions for both riding and swimming. A total of 26 students received achievement awards with over 80% of our students receiving achievement awards for both riding and swimming disciplines. We also want to thank all the parents who brought food and refreshments, and in particular Mark Kiffin of The Compound Restaurant who supplied us all with some real gourmet delights!

Once again we were proud to announce the winner of The Ron Walters Award.

The Ron Walters Award is presented each year to the Las Campanas Compadres volunteer who in the opinion of the founders, Lawrence and Suzanna Becerra, has demonstrated outstanding enthusiasm for the program. The recipient will have an unparalleled sense of ardor, determination, and compassion, character traits that Ron Walters lived by.

It is always difficult to single out any one particular volunteer as all of our volunteers are incredibly helpful in so many ways. That being said, we are delighted to announce that last year the Ron Walters Award was bestowed upon two of our volunteers. Our sincere thanks and congratulations go to Norman Becht, for his work in the riding program and Marty Herrera, for his work in the swimming program. For those of you who know Norman and Marty their receipt of this award should come as no surprise.

In November 2009 the three horses that we use in the program, Shilo, Billy and Bruno, were donated to us by Caroline Stevenson. Caroline has been an ardent supporter of our program, and this generous action speaks volumes about her commitment to the program. Las Campanas Compadres, in turn, donated all three horses to The Club at Las Campanas under an agreement whereby Las Campanas Compadres will be responsible for all vet and farrier bills, and The Club at Las Campanas will be responsible for feed and lodging. We will have the use of the horses for our Monday riding program and The Club at Las Campanas will be able to use the horses for lessons and trail rides. This is a an attractive deal for all concerned but obviously comes at a financial cost to our program since in the past we had the use of these horses for free.

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2010 In Focus

While we anticipate that our growth will slow down somewhat during 2010 due to capacity constraints in our riding and swimming programs, we believe that the program can continue to grow in other ways. Certainly we envision our fishing program to grow in number of participants. As well, we are always studying the benefits and feasibility of different types of programs.

Our volunteer pool is growing but we can always use more volunteers. We ask that you please help us spread the word to get people involved.

As the program has grown we have focused our fund raising efforts. In May of last year The Club at Las Campanas hosted a mini triathlon event and invited Las Campanas Compadres to be involved. A number of volunteers took part in the program and we used this as an opportunity to raise sponsorship money. We are pleased to report that we were able to raise approximately \$21,000 in sponsorship money from this event.

The Club at Las Campanas will again be hosting their mini triathlon event on Memorial Day this year. Once again they have offered this venue to our program as a fund raising event. Our board has decided that this event should be our primary fund raiser.

Last year Suzanna and I competed individually. This year we are forming teams with our students. I will be part of a team that will consist of John Romero, who will complete the running part (for those of you who do not know John, he has Cerebral Palsy and is in a wheel chair but his condition has never stopped him from taking on a challenge) and Christian Woodard who will complete the swimming portion. I will assist John around the running course and will also do the biking portion. Suzanna is putting her team together now and we will also have Georgia Smith and David Caldwell forming teams with some of our students. We hope to achieve the same success as we did last year in raising sponsorship money. If you would like to participate in this year's event either as a competitor raising sponsorship money or as a volunteer on the day, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We were also fortunate to have been the beneficiaries of a very special offering. Mike and Rita Linder, owners of Jewel Mark, one of the premier jewelers in town, donated 20% of all sales made in their store on December 19th. last year. This resulted in a \$4,616

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donation from Jewel Mark to Las Campanas Compadres. Our special thanks go to Mike and Rita for this most generous gesture.

Finances

It is the policy of Las Campanas Compadres to be completely transparent regarding finances.

LCC entered 2009 with just under \$29,800 in the bank. We ended the year with approximately \$39,700. We have been overwhelmed by people's generosity and wish to express our sincere gratitude.

While our cash balances may appear healthy, the continued growth of the program coupled with the challenging economic landscape necessitates the need for continued support.

During 2009 our operating expenses were \$30,950 versus a budget of \$47,150. Expenses are divided into two main categories. The largest expense is the cost of our programs. Last year this accounted for \$23,366 of our operating budget. The balance of \$7,583 was for office infrastructure.

All LCC officers work pro bono. There are no salaried employees. All office infrastructure expenses are funded by the founders. **100% of all outside donations are spent on instructors and equipment.**

Our budget for 2010 is \$45,000. We have budgeted \$37,600 for programs and \$7,400 for office infrastructure.

It goes without saying that none of this would be possible without the generosity of a great number of people. Suzanna and I are truly grateful. We believe LCC has a positive impact on the lives of families in our program as well as the community at large.

Suzanna and I want to thank you once again for your support and generosity and we look forward to seeing you all during 2010.

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Kindest Regards,

Lawrence and Suzanna Becerra
Founders
Las Campanas Compadres, Inc.



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