



LAS CAMPANAS COMPADRES

People Helping People Reach New Heights

February 20, 2009

Now that 2008 has come to a close, we thought it would be appropriate to update you on what Las Campanas Compadres has accomplished over the past year and what our plans are for 2009.

2008 was an exciting year for the program during which many milestones were achieved.

- We now have 29 students participating in the riding, swimming and art programs we offer with an additional 8 students looking to join the program in the spring.
- LCC has grown quickly since our inception in October 2006 when we started with four students in the riding program. To date LCC has underwritten approximately 600 riding lessons. Lessons are every Monday at the equestrian centre.
- LCC hired David Caldwell as our swimming instructor and to date we have underwritten approximately 150 lessons. Lessons are from 12-3pm on Fridays and Saturdays in the indoor swimming pool at the spa.
- LCC started a new art program under the guidance of Donna Bailey. The program currently has four students and we expect that number to grow. Art lessons take place every other Friday for a two hour session in Studio 80.
- LCC received its 501c3 status from the IRS recognizing us a tax exempt charitable organization.
- LCC has a new logo. *“People Helping People Reach New Heights”*
- LCC has a new web site. You can now visit us at www.lascampanascompadres.org
- LCC purchased a special riding saddle that has proven to be a great success. This is the only saddle of its kind in the State of New Mexico.
- LCC created the Ron Walters Award – “Reaching New Heights”

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Tel: 505 820 2707 Fax: 505 820 2709
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. A total of 27 trophies were handed out and Las Campanas helped us put on a great barbecue. Of special note was the establishment of the Ron Walters Award – “Reaching New Heights”.

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.

We are pleased to report that the recipient for 2008 was Susan Sumner. For those of you who know Susan and all that she does for the program, her choice was an obvious one. You can see her in the picture below holding up the plaque with her name on it!

In 2007 LCC sponsored a fishing trip with four of our students. This was made possible through The Lodge at Chama’s generous donation of facilities and guides. Although The Lodge at Chama has extended their invitation to us to have more than one fishing trip on their property, we unfortunately were not able to organize a trip in 2008. We are determined to organize several fishing trips during 2009 to a number of fishing venues.

None of what LCC does would be possible without the generous amount of time and dedication we receive from our volunteers. We can’t thank them enough. Our volunteer pool is growing but we desperately need more volunteers particularly given the growth we have witnessed in the past year and what we expect in the year to come. We ask that you please help us spread the word to get people involved.

LCC is also indebted to Las Campanas and its members for their generous donation of the equestrian and swimming facilities. One of our goals for 2009 is to make all of the Las Campanas membership aware of our program and to embrace LCC as a Las Campanas charity, one which all members can be proud of.

Las Campanas will be hosting a triathlon event in May and have invited LCC to be a beneficiary of the event. We are delighted to have this opportunity and believe that this will go a long way toward achieving our goal of greater awareness of the program among

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the Las Campanas membership. Expect to see more information about this event in the coming weeks.

A growing number of Las Campanas staff have become involved in the program and have generously donated their precious time to help us achieve a number of our goals. Special thanks go to Phil Nowlin, Caroline Stevenson, Elena Stevens, Suzanna Craver and Pam Franco for their tireless efforts.

As the program has grown we have increased our fund raising efforts. LCC sponsored an opera recital and auction during the summer that raised approximately \$20,000. Total revenues for 2008 were \$52,136. LCC entered 2009 with just under \$29,800 in the bank. 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 necessitates our need for continued support. During 2008 our operating expenses were \$39,892. This is broken down into two main categories. The largest expense is the cost of instructors and equipment. Last year this accounted for \$27,480 of our operating budget. The balance of \$12,411 was for office infrastructure (insurance, logo design, web site design, fund raising expenses, etc).

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 2009 is \$50,000. We have budgeted \$38,950 for instructors and equipment and \$9,400 for office infrastructure.

It goes without saying that none of this would be possible without your generosity for which we are truly grateful. We believe LCC is having a positive impact on peoples' lives.

Suzanna and I wish to thank you for your support and generosity and we look forward to seeing you during 2009.

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Kindest Regards,

Lawrence and Suzanna Becerra



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