



Josephine Joseph and Bravo at Camelot.

## Giving Unconditionally

By Josephine M. Joseph,  
Camelot Volunteer

I open the door marked “Meeting Room” and enter the Camelot building. I am met with the excitement of the people who work there, as well as those who volunteer. I smile as I feel the love, commitment, and familiarity of my Camelot family. All my troubles melt away as I center myself on the service I

give.

They sit at the round table, working for the good of all who benefit from what they teach. Whether student, teacher, or volunteer, one can learn how to cultivate leadership and share with a community where all are equal and have a voice.

At Camelot, physical limitations disappear as students are assisted to move beyond the body, encouraging and nurturing the spirit to find its freedom through the power of the horse.

Every one is congenial, working to achieve the objective for the day, whether it is cleaning a stall, grooming a horse, or planning an event in support of the service they provide to the lives they touch.

With great leadership, Camelot runs like a well-oiled machine. In taking the time to understand the volunteer staff and their capabilities, they place them in perfect position to form a partnership for success.

Without contributions Camelot would not survive. Life is an inter-dependent system and cyclic circle of energy, and Camelot would not be here if not for you. They serve, at no cost to the student, reaching far beyond what the physical eye can see.

In the giving, we receive, and that energy returns to us and fills our cup to overflow. I know the benefit of the time and money I give and witness its immediate affect. I see it in the face and growth of a student and the joy it

brings to the family members. I know it serves them on levels they have yet to experience.

As I walk the property I am welcomed by the labyrinth, where students and volunteers were invited to place rocks to line the path, as the energies melted into the creation of the sacred journey the labyrinth represents. I am a witness to the growth of Camelot provided by those who generously donated the funds

*(Continued on page 2)*



Mark your calendar  
for the evening of  
**Saturday,**  
**November 5, 2011**

Calling all Dream Shooters to see  
the world through a different lens!

Camelot is proud to present  
**Kevin Foster**

*Foster is a former member of the US Paralympics Alpine Ski Team. He has worked for Motorola Solutions for 19 years and is the Director of HR Operations. Foster has an extensive background in global diversity and is president and founder of the Motorola Solutions Disability Business Council.*

The difference between what we do and what we are capable of doing



Danielle R., a Camelot student, riding Nick.

## Finding Courage

By Michelle Bartlett,  
Director of community relations &  
riding instructor

There is something powerful about loving a horse. It's deep and stirring, and inspires people to accomplish things outside their comfort zone, beyond what they imagine possible. Danielle, a Camelot student who has congenital hypotonia benign, is a timid young lady; when she wraps her arms around Scout's neck, she's not just embracing him for that moment. She's embracing a new future for herself, one that takes courage and faith.

Danielle is provided this opportunity because of another group of people who also demonstrate great courage and faith: our donors. They believe in the ripple effect that takes place when Danielle picks up a brush and cares for her Camelot steed. Our program doesn't exist solely on the sweat of our volunteers, and the desire in students' hearts alone. It takes more than that. It takes a community reaching deep and donating to keep Camelot here for years to come.

We ask you to reach deep and ask your friends do the same. Camelot will only survive with your help.

In May, I was surprised when Danielle asked to canter. I believed she could; I also understood the fear she overcame learning to trot, and wondered if she knew what she was asking.

There was only one way to find out.

The last day of classes, I told Danielle I would teach her to canter. It wasn't easy for her, but she did it! Huge smile on her face, huffing and puffing from the physical exertion, Danielle did it! While reaching deep inside herself, she found courage, drive and determination and she succeeded.

Asking for money is not easy, more terrifying than cantering for the first time. Please embrace Camelot, find the courage that Danielle found, and give generously.

Not one day of classes could exist without our community's support. Most donors aren't here to see Andrea, who is visually impaired, ride independently on Bravo. They don't share in Danielle's triumph as she learns to canter, or share her sister Chantal's exhilaration as she learns to jump a fence while on Cayanna's back. They don't witness Isabel, who is deaf and has cochlear implants, learn sign language during her riding lesson with her mentor Sara, a fellow Camelot student and aspiring riding instructor. But Camelot donors have faith they are changing people's lives through their financial support.

There is an amazing clarity taking place when wheelchairs are left behind and students leave hoof prints in their wake. Ranch life is a powerful, yet simple life, and it changes how one thinks. People no longer wonder what their potential is; they know what greatness they are capable of achieving.

*I ride the horse,  
Walking, walking.  
I walk in circles,  
Walking, walking,  
"Are you ready?" She says,  
Asking, asking,  
I breathe deeply and I say "Yes",  
Preparing, preparing,  
The horse begins and goes faster,  
Running, running,  
I find my rythm,  
and I am in the air,  
Flying, flying.*

By Danielle Riba ~ 4/12/11

Those of us whose lives have been changed by Camelot are members of an amazing family. We've learned to recognize how the simple life can lead to grand things. We've learned how simple acts of perseverance can open doors and change people's perceptions of their own capabilities. Thank you for supporting Camelot and for creating opportunities for our riders. Please continue to share in Danielle's courage, by believing in Camelot's tomorrow, and donating to our program today.



## Giving Unconditionally

(Continued from page 1)

for the new retirement pastures, as well as the raised vegetable garden.

When you transcend the layers of Camelot you discover its foundation is unconditional giving. Horses are at the core of the work and have many hours of schooling, not just for the horse and rider, the teachers always finding ways to improve and update their skills.

Living life is a delicate balance of giving and receiving. Support goes beyond money, as it represents the ability to allow someone or something the right to continue on, knowing the money we give is being utilized to the highest degree.

Life is a domino effect and we ask you to give while encouraging friends, relatives and business associates you know to give, bringing new awareness and increasing the flow of energy to the round table.

I am filled with a sense of purpose knowing my donation provides security to those who benefit from Camelot's programs, through the partnership we form with the generosity and spirit of the horse.



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would suffice to solve most of the world's problems. ~ A man is but the

# Because of Camelot, I'm Living My Dream

By Jenna Stiles,  
Camelot Volunteer



*Jenna Stiles and her horse Mickey.*

I always loved horses since I was a little girl. I rode a broom and slapped my hip galloping around the yard. I always wanted to pet the horses that the policeman rode in downtown Philadelphia. And so it was throughout my life. I rode a little, loved it much, but my life went in other directions.

Then I found Camelot and volunteered when I was 65 years old. I loved being in the barn, mucking stalls, petting the equine staff and working with students. I watched the deep emotion that penetrates a horse's soul when carrying students with disabilities. I marveled at how Camelot's students stretched their

physical and emotional boundaries to the limit so that they were free, enjoying each moment around these beautiful creatures.

If the students can do it, why can't I, even in my golden years? I learned from the Camelot experience that there are no barriers that can't be overcome if you want and love something this much. I started riding again after many years and loved it. I was in heaven when riding Bravo in the desert, just him and me, the wind blowing in our faces, his ears rotated back to listen, his head swinging

happily back and forth.

One step more, I want my own horse. Silly girl, you're now over 70 years old. Aah, think again. The students stretch their boundaries to the very core of their souls; the thrill of being free, being with and riding these marvelous creatures. Why can't I? If not now, when?

At age 73, Mickey, a 14-year-old paint gelding, came into my life. I had the opportunity to have him as my own, my very first horse. My relationship with Mickey is a continuing love story. If I'm not riding him, then we hang out together. I enjoy every moment with him. He constantly surprises me with his patience, wisdom and humor. He nibbles my neck, or knocks my hat askew if I'm not giving him the attention he thinks he deserves.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you, Camelot. At my age I am living the great adventure of having my own horse.



Welcome to newest students! **Gracie B., Lynne L., Laurel N.**

Welcome to our newest volunteers!

**Harrison M., Jim S., Mary Beth W., Sharon P., Sandy K., Kirk N., Hannah B. and Nick S.** Welcome back **Heather H.!**

Camelot's Inaugural **Starry Knights**, held December 2010, was a huge success! Guests were inspired and entertained by Dr. Andy Erlich's performance of *The Long Shadows*, and the auction and raffle raised needed funding for Camelot. Congratulations to **Syvruud** family for winning the Harley raffle! It was a night to be remembered!

Thank you **Ron**, from **Estrella Horse Blanket Cleaning & Repair** for taking such good care of the horses' blankets and saddle pads year after year!

**Cosanti Originals, Inc.** chose Camelot to receive a portion of the proceeds from their Soleri Cause Bells! Visit [www.cosanti.com](http://www.cosanti.com),

click on "Cause Bell", and select Camelot as your benefiting organization. Or visit one of their two stores to purchase one in person.

Thank you **Janis P.**, for developing this relationship for Camelot!

Camelot needs a **pigeon repulsion systems expert!** Qualified volunteer candidates must implement this project and see it through to fruition, resulting in a dramatic reduction in our pigeon population. Contact Michelle at [michelle@CamelotAZ.org](mailto:michelle@CamelotAZ.org)

Camelot has been very fortunate to have several capital improvement projects take place this year. All of the materials and labor were a gift to the program.

Camelot students can now enjoy a wheelchair-accessible, shaded garden, fondly called Camelot's Enchanted Garden. It was donated by **Scottsdale Leadership Class XXV**, and dedicated **in memory of Ted Szychowski**.

Also built is an impressive 85 ft. wheelchair-accessible labyrinth. It was donated **in memory of Rosie McCullough** by her daughter and son-in-law, who was instrumental in the building as well.

Visit our website for pictures of the rocking horse Soleri Windbell, Enchanted Garden and Labyrinth at **CamelotAZ.org!**

## In Memory of

**Hartley Barker  
Ruth Heldfond  
Norman Mirman  
Steve Stone  
Chester Zielinski**

## In Honor of

**Katherine & Lou Aldon  
Tom Chauncey &  
Chauncey Foundation  
Ann Ezzell  
Lou & Sharon Goldman  
Shirley Lowman's Birthday  
Jan Miller  
Valerie Parzych  
Edna Pindler  
Lynn Wright  
Leslie Zelisko**

Memorial gifts in any amount are a beautiful way to honor a beloved friend or family member, be they human or otherwise. We also welcome gifts in honor of birthdays or other special occasions. All such donations are acknowledged with a special card and a mention in our newsletter.

When sending in your gift, please include a brief note designating who it is memorializing, and in which category you are submitting them. If you would like an acknowledgment card sent, please include their address.

Image from <http://graphics.fairyblogspot.com>

product of his thoughts; what he thinks, he becomes. ~ Mohandas Gandhi

# CAMELOT & UNITED WAY

2011

Last year, many of  
you  
helped us raise  
\$10,160  
by donating to  
Camelot through  
United Way!

Thank you  
for your support!

~

“Our hoofbeats  
were many, but  
our hearts beat as  
one.”

Author Unknown

~

[CamelotAz.org](http://CamelotAz.org)

For the past 28 years,  
Camelot's mission has been  
to improve the quality of life  
for children and adults with  
disabilities through programs  
of horsemanship and outdoor  
education, which  
develop self-worth,  
independence and active  
participation in the community.



*Photo: Hayden Corn, a Camelot rider, meets Barbara, Camelot's newest therapy horse.*

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Every penny makes a difference, especially during challenging economic times. One way to lend a helping hand is through the United Way Donor Choice Program that begins every September.

This is a great way to simplify your life, by having your charitable donation deducted regularly from your paycheck. Remember, no amount is too small to make a big difference!

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## Q&A

Is Camelot a United Way member?

Camelot is not a member agency, which means we do not receive United Way funds, but qualified nonmember agencies have the opportunity to receive donations from you, through the Donor Choice Program.

What's Camelot's Valley of the Sun United Way number?

Camelot's Agency Number is 1003642.

What's Camelot's mailing address?

23623 N. Scottsdale Road, #D3-259, Scottsdale, Arizona 85255

Can my family out of state donate to Camelot through United Way?

For those not in the Phoenix area who wish to have Camelot as their Designated Donor Choice recipient, they can receive more information about signing up from your United Way staff member or local United Way agency.

What's Camelot's Tax ID number?

It is 86-0444470. Camelot is a 501c3 nonprofit organization.

If I'm not in the position to donate, but would still like to help, what can I do? Please make copies of this form to share with others! Feel free to request a PDF of this flyer. Email [Michelle@CamelotAz.org](mailto:Michelle@CamelotAz.org). Thank you for helping!

# HELP CAMELOT TURN DREAMS INTO REALITY!

DONATION FORM  
SUMMER 2011

- Walk \$25  
 Trot \$50  
 Canter \$100  
 Gallop \$150 +  
 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please notify me annually at this time on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 A partial contribution is enclosed.  
 Please send me a reminder for the balance due on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

PLEASE HELP US KEEP OUR RECORDS CURRENT!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name & Address (if new)

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Home Phone

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CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD PLEASE.

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3 Digit Code

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Please feel free to call (480) 515-1542 with your credit card information.  
Camelot is a nonprofit charitable organization and all donations are tax deductible. A receipt will follow for your tax records.

“A SMALL BODY  
OF DETERMINED  
SPIRITS FIRED BY  
AN UNQUENCHABLE  
FAITH IN THEIR  
MISSION CAN  
ALTER THE COURSE  
OF HISTORY.”

  
MOHANDAS GANDHI

*The ability to offer services to all participants at no cost requires support from many donors. All donations are tax deductible and can be gifted in the form of cash, stocks or inkind contributions.*

*Thank you for being more than our supporters; thank you for being our believers! Camelot exists because of you!*

*Mary Hadsall,  
Executive director of Camelot*

DID YOU KNOW,  
DONATIONS CAN BE  
MADE ONLINE AT  
CAMELOTAZ.ORG?

## Heroes' Hero

### Peggy Welsh

*Peggy Welsh, while helping to build Camelot's pastures.*



**P**eggy Welsh came through our gates in January of 2008. There is not a job she can't perform! She can be found in the barn working with students, or on the trails riding horses; she may be in the desert helping with pasture fencing, or in the meeting room planning Camelot's fund raisers Hooves & Heroes or Starry Knights.

Thank you, Peggy, for being our "go to" lady! Thanks to your years of event experience; you have been an outstanding support in planning Camelot's fund raisers. And you are one heck of a cowgirl to boot!

## Knight in Shining Armor Ray Klein



*Ray Klein next to one of the many pasture poles he carved.*

**R**ay Klein, for so many Camelot projects is the "wizard behind the curtain" and the man on the tractor! In addition to inspiring and co-chairing Camelot's inaugural Starry Knights event, he has been instrumental in all the beautiful capital improvement projects we have built this past year. No project has been too daunting, from the construction of our labyrinth, designing and building Camelot's enchanted garden, to the construction of the horses' retirement village. And these are just a few of his many contributions to Camelot. Thank you, Ray, for sharing your ingenuity, creativity, and hours and hours of your time!



Camelot...Where heroes are born



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