

Little Creek Farm Conservancy 2016



A Message from the President

2016 was a great year at Little Creek Farm as we welcomed thousands of people to this special DeKalb County Park.

Through Conservancy community outreach and public events, people enjoyed visiting the park to learn about horses and enjoy the outdoors. In addition to Conservancy programs, numerous students and clients participated in the Park's long-standing, independently-run lesson programs through Atlanta Riding Academy, Mark's Riding School, and Stride Ahead Equine Assisted Therapy Program.

Little Creek Farm Conservancy is committed to supporting good Farm stewardship and providing opportunities for the public to experience horses and precious in-town greenspace.

The Conservancy thanks DeKalb County Recreation, Parks & Cultural Affairs; our County Commissioners; DeKalb County CEO, Farm staff, and the citizens of the County and greater Atlanta who support our efforts to safeguard and improve Little Creek Farm for the enjoyment of all.

We look forward to a growing 2017.

Jane Donofrio, President

Little Creek Farm Conservancy, Inc.



Highlights of 2016

Little Creek Farm Conservancy, Inc. (LCFC) is a volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to supporting Little Creek Horse Farm. The Farm is a unique DeKalb County facility, deeply embedded in the community, and providing service to residents of DeKalb County and Metro Atlanta. In 2016 we:

- Hosted **9** events bringing over **2,000** participants, volunteers and visitors to the Farm
- Raised **\$19,289** for improvements at Little Creek Farm
- Participated in special fundraising for manure management, winter hay, pest control, supplies, and other improvements



Horsefest 2016

By the numbers, Horsefest welcomed:

- **249** pony rides/riders
- **724** adult visitors
- **153** people volunteers
- **30** horse volunteers

It was a remarkable day, with demonstrations of jumping, dressage, natural horsemanship, and informational sessions about breeds and characteristics of horses.

Our visitors included people who come for every Horsefest, as well as people who were introduced to a horse for the first time.



Spring Pony Rides

One of the best ways to introduce the community to horses is to bring them up close and personal with a safe, supervised pony ride.

We gave over **350** pony rides during this Spring event with the assistance over **50** human volunteer shifts and over **30** horse volunteers.

Each rider was assisted in mounting and dismounting and led around the arena by volunteers. Riders came in all sizes and ages.



Hands on Horses

A unique tour designed to introduce the community to Little Creek Farm and to horses, the Hands on Horses program showcased

Little Creek to **99** visitors in **13** groups in 2016.

Tours, led by volunteers, were given to Girl Scouts; women from Agnes Scott College; groups of seniors, families, friends, nursing home residents; school groups; and others from the local community.

Each group toured the Barn and pastures, participated in an art project, and saw a demonstration of natural horsemanship ground training.



Quadrille

A quadrille is a dance with horses – choreographed dressage performed to music.

Over **20** quadrille riders attended **14** practice sessions under the direction of trainer, Mark Jaglarz, of Mark's Riding Academy.

Then, a dozen riders put on a show for **50+** friends, family, Girl Scouts, retirees, a photography club and volunteers.

Quadrille is an annual December event at Little Creek Farm.



Schooling Shows

Riders who are getting ready to show at formal events need training and practice, and that is the purpose of schooling shows. These events are judged and require proper attire and competitive presentation that takes hours of practice.

Little Creek Farm hosted **2** schooling shows in 2016 for over **20** entrants supported by approximately **30** volunteers and many visitors.

Both were important training for riders and horses.



Halloween Costume Parade

Turns out our horses like to get dressed up too, particularly when there's an audience.

Halloween at Little Creek Farm involved mounted games as well as the costume parade which featured ballerinas, Storm Troopers, mythical creatures, a Horse Fly and even a lovely mare as Lady Godiva.

42 visitors came to the barn to view the costume parade.



Community Outreach

Twice in 2016, LCFC welcomed the Community to a Potluck in the Pasture.

Our Neighborhood Appreciation Picnic attracted about **70** neighbors and Farm supporters.

In the Fall we welcomed **45** people to our annual Pot Luck.

We provided soft drinks and grilled hamburgers while members and visitors brought a wide array of delicious food.

Other activities are in development to welcome the community to Little Creek Farm.



No Dumping!

At first it was a convenient spot to pick up mulch, and then it was overwhelmed with illegal dumping. As shown in the picture, it became unsightly as well as suffocating for the trees.

Little Creek Farm Conservancy worked with Commissioner Kathy Gannon, several DeKalb County Departments including Parks, and the Georgia Department of Transportation to clean up the dumped materials, preserve the trees, and provide signs for future protection.

Thank you to the County and State for taking care of this public right-of-way. It is now much more welcoming, the trees are recovering, and the lawn is growing back.



Membership

Little Creek Farm Conservancy is supported by **129** members including **21** boarders, and **108** community members, riding students, staff and others.

LCFC holds quarterly meetings at the Farm, that are open to Members and the public.

We invite you to participate at Little Creek Farm by joining the Conservancy. Membership information is available at:

www.LittleCreekFarmConservancy.org



Manure

LCFC took on a project to help DeKalb County with disposal of a manure backlog.

Boarders and supporters contributed **\$100** for each of **42** horses at the Farm, raising **\$4,190**.

With both contractor and County trucks working, over **130** truckloads were removed to farmers, residents, and the DeKalb County landfill.



Vendors & Merchandise

Every year, community artisans and other vendors support Little Creek Farm by participating with booths at HorseFest and at the Holiday Market during Quadrille. The number of participating vendors grows with each event and should continue growing in 2017.

The Conservancy also has its own line of branded merchandise which promotes the Farm to the public and adds to Conservancy funds. Products available on our website and at events include t-shirts, key chains, mugs, fleece vests, horse figurines, and saddle blankets.



Little Creek Farm's Volunteers

Conservancy volunteers work for Little Creek Farm in many areas.

Members, friends, and supporters of Little Creek Farm came out for three clean-up days in 2016.

On a weekly basis, volunteers pull weeds, dust, scrub, sweep, wash, shovel, plant, and generally work to improve facilities at Little Creek Farm. Volunteers bring carrots and donate brooms, baked goods, and other small items.

Volunteers make Little Creek's public events possible; they do the planning, budgeting, banking, fund-raising, membership building, pony ride-leading, concession selling, horse-hair bracelet braiding, tour-guiding, recruiting, meeting, demonstrating, and more.



Financial Results

LCFC events, membership and donations raised a net of **\$19,289** in 2016.

Thousands of volunteer hours were also contributed by both humans and horses to bring equine and outdoor experiences to residents and visitors of DeKalb County and the greater Atlanta area.

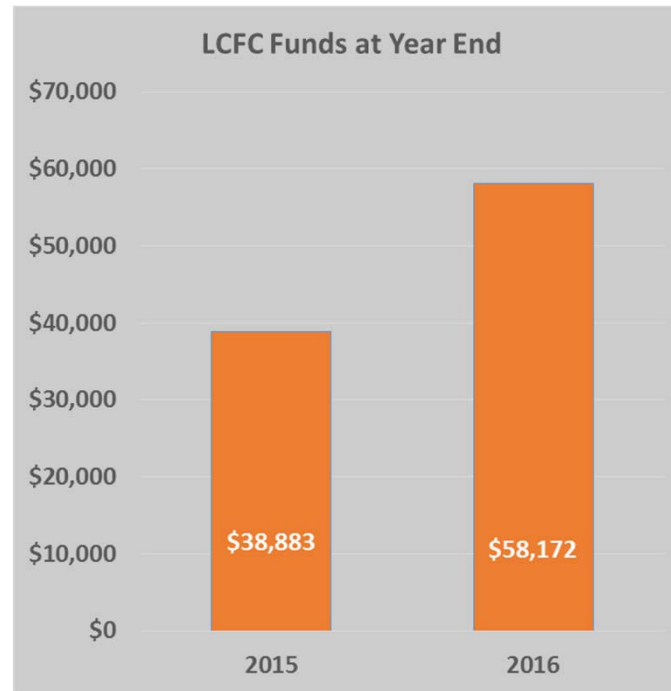
LCFC Revenue and Expense	
Revenue	
Fall Event (Horsefest)	\$9,271
Hands on Horses	\$649
Other Events	\$328
Schooling Shows	\$5,762
Spring Event (Pony Rides)	\$2,570
Membership Income	\$3,300
Donations to LCFC	\$9,961
Merchandise Sales	\$1,463
Project Contribution	\$4,190
Total Revenue	\$37,495
Expense	
Administration, Insurance and Merchant Fees	\$3,304
Fall Event Expenses (Horsefest)	\$2,040
Hands on Horses Expenses	\$167
Other Events	\$250
Schooling Show Expenses	\$1,073
Spring Event Expenses (Pony Rides)	\$385
Barn Improvements	\$1,766
Pasture & Paddock Improvements	\$5,919
Farm Supplies	\$2,116
Merchandise Purchases	\$1,187
Total Expense	\$18,206
Net Revenue to LCFC	\$19,289

Financial Position

LCFC started 2016 with **\$38,883**. At the end of the year, we had **\$58,172**.

This has been a year of raising money for several planned projects. We will continue to fundraise in 2017, and will invest in projects including:

- Seating with a shade to view the outdoor arena
- Permanent solution for manure disposal
- Drainage and pasture improvements



LCFC Calendar

Member Meeting 1	Saturday January 14
Membership Month	April 1 - April 30
Spring Clean Up/Member Potluck to Kickoff on April 1st	Saturday April 1 - Saturday April 8
Spring Pony Rides	Saturday April 15
Member Meeting 2 & Officer Election	Saturday May 6
Amelia S. Cook In House Schooling	Saturday May 20
Neighborhood Picnic & Fun Day Events	Sun, June 18
Member Meeting 3	Saturday August 12
Fall Clean Up Day	Saturday September 9
Horsefest	Saturday September 16
Fall Potluck / Horse Costume Parade	Saturday October 28
Fall Schooling Show	Saturday November 4, Raindate November 11
Member Meeting 4	Saturday November 11
Quadrille / Holiday Bazaar	Saturday December 2
Holiday Party	TBD



Little Creek Farm Conservancy Leadership

BOARD

President - Jane Donofrio

Vice-President - Tamara Dillard

Treasurer - Peggy Berg

Secretary - Rene Iverson

At-Large - Bobbi Woolwine. Community Affairs Liaison



COMMITTEES and SUB-COMMITTEES

Membership

Hands on Horses Outreach

Merchandise

Fundraising

Volunteer Coordination

Events

Special Projects

Visioning

Farm Affairs

Fly Predator Control Program

Shaded Outdoor Seating

Manure and Bedding

Sign Me UP

LCFC welcomes volunteers.

Contact us to find out about volunteering at events and/or joining a committee. We'd love to have you.

info@LittleCreekFarmConservancy.org

www.LittleCreekFarmConservancy.org

(678) 590-1530

www.facebook.com/Little-Creek-Farm-523780917678473/

Also, member meetings (and all events) are open to the public. You are welcome to come meet us and find out about current projects May 6, August 12 and November 11 at 9:00 am at the Barn.

