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More than a Home, A Family

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Seamark Ranch is a Christ-centered home for Northeast Florida's children from families in crisis.

LEAVING A LEGACY

The recent passing of my previous employer, mentor and wonderful friend, Patrick Kelly, has me thinking about the legacy we can leave on our world. Pat built a thriving national company that provided legendary service to our customers and also offered thousands of employees an opportunity to succeed in ways we never imagined. We were more than just employees, we became a family. Family was important to Pat because he grew up at the Virginia Home for Boys. Overcoming a tragic early childhood, Pat became a man whose life had a tremendous impact on all who knew him!

Yet Pat's legacy is more than just a successful businessman, father and friend. Pat knew first-hand what hope and opportunity can do to change the life of a child. He wanted children everywhere to have that same hope and opportunity, and he worked hard to make that happen. Through The Boys Home Foundation and his generous gifts to Seamark Ranch, Pat left a legacy of love, safety, hope, education and empowerment for our children.

Maybe the greatest legacy we can leave on our world is to positively impact the lives of children. I am privileged to be part of the ministry of Seamark Ranch and its mission to transform the lives of children coming to us from desperate situations. Individuals, businesses, civic organizations and churches join with us daily in this ministry. Some provide faithful financial support, some give in honor or in memory of loved ones, others pray daily for Seamark Ranch, others volunteer regularly and

still others donate their time, talents and treasures in creative and selfless ways. Each in their own way and according to their own abilities is giving a gift to our children that will live in their hearts forever.

We need your help. As Seamark seeks to provide hope and opportunity for even more children, won't you join us? What better legacy can we leave on our world!

Fred Meiners

Executive Director



Pat Kelly with his grandson Henry.

Seamark Happenings

WELCOME INSIDE THE BOYS' HOME...

Molly awoke this morning way too early after working until 12:30am last night. Why? Because our Seamark Boys' Home decided to play tag and tackle upstairs right over her bedroom!

Molly heard her Dad upstairs, frustrated, reprimanding the boys for being selfish. Although tired and frustrated herself, Molly went to her Dad and gave him an amazing note. It said how much she loved and appreciated him. She reminded him that he is not only a father to her and her brother, Riley; he also "fathers" many boys who are ALL fatherless. What a special Father's Day!

- Tracy Dawson - Boys' Home Mom



SUMMER TIME HAPPENINGS



As the sun was setting Friday evening, Debbie and I were in the garden area when some of our boys came up. They had come up to check on a newborn baby goat. We were talking with Trey when Stormy joined us. On the other side of the barn we could see Noah in the pen with Jose the donkey. We struck up a conversation about the experiences of the week and Summer Fun on the Farm, our field trip program for children from urban Jacksonville. Trey had been working the hayride and he shared about how, to his own surprise, the visiting children had enjoyed singing Old MacDonald Had a Farm. Hesitantly, Trey led us in a verse, "...and on that farm he had a donkey, E.. I.. E.. I.. O!" Noah confidently told of his experience as Team Leader as we chanted, "Red Team .. Red Team .. Red Team." Next, Noah hopes to have a chance to be Blue Team Leader. Stormy spoke up and informed us that when he grows up he wants to help homeless boys! Not sure of his inspiration for that statement, but we were certainly blessed to hear it. How many young children ever consider such an idea?

Next, the conversation moved to summer reading. Noah is looking for a book on the British Empire. We talked about the famous quote, "The sun never sets on the British Empire." We talked about British colonies and India came up. I suggested a biography about Gandhi. Trey jumped in with information about Gandhi that he had learned in school while studying about Martin Luther King. Stormy told us that he's reading the Chronicles of Narnia.

It has been a challenging and hot, summer at Seamark Ranch. The pace has been exhausting and there have been many opportunities for discouragement. But, it is times like Friday evening that inspire and assure that lives are being changed.

- Fred Meiners, Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE 12TH ANNUAL JOHN L. COLEMAN CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Put together a foursome and join us for the 12th Annual John L. Coleman Charity Golf Tournament benefiting Seamark Ranch. The tournament, hosted by the CSX Retirees, will be held at Jacksonville Golf and Country Club on October 3, 2016. The day includes a round of Captain's Choice golf, lunch, awards and prizes and a silent auction to benefit Seamark. Contact (904)288-8885 to register your foursome or for sponsorship opportunities.

Honors & Memorials

The following supporters have made contributions to Seamark Ranch in honor or in memory of family, friends and loved ones. Gifts were received between October 16, 2015 and June 30, 2016 and include Holiday 2015 Tributes and 2016 Season of Prayer Tributes. Names are listed alphabetically by the person being honored or memorialized. We regret any unintentional omission or misspelling of names. Please call the office with any omissions so that we may include them in our next newsletter.

Tributes may be made by mail or online at www.seamarkranch.com. Tribute forms may be printed from our website or we will gladly take your information over the phone and mail an acknowledgement card to your recipient. Please call our office at (904) 288-8885 if we may assist you in this way.

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Thanks to the Melting Pot at St. Johns Town Center for choosing Seamark as their spotlight charity for April and May. Proceeds from special menu items and drawings were greatly appreciated.

Thanks to Hagan Ace Hardware in Green **Cove Springs for** selecting Seamark as their Round-Up Charity for July 4th weekend. Customers rounded up their purchase to benefit Seamark Ranch.

Thanks to the Jacksonville Suns organization for sponsoring Seamark Night at the Suns baseball game on May 31st. A portion of ticket sales benefitted Seamark Ranch.

Thanks to Boyd & Jenerette P.A. for selecting Seamark Ranch as one of their chosen charities for 2016. Thanks to all the B&I employees for making the Seamark Family part of your family.



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BARK TO SCHOOL

03= P3+C3

Back to School is right around the corner! Seamark School will begin on August 16th with teachers returning on August 9th. As you get your students ready for a new school year please consider helping Seamark children prepare for a successful school year. Any of the following new items would be greatly appreciated:

- Personal Size Dry Erase Boards (8X10)
- Dry Erase Markers
- Copy Paper
- Loose Leaf Notebook Paper
- Pocket Folders
- Mechanical Pencils/Ink Pens
- Large Erasers
- Manila Folders
- Post It Notes
- Scotch Tape
- **Adult Scissors**

- Construction Paper/Art Supplies
- Acrylic Paints And Paint Brushes
- **Boxed Kleenex**
- Hand Sanitizer
- Personal Flash Drives
- Label Maker
- Gift Cards: Teacher Supply Depot, Walmart, Target, Kohls
- Contributions For Seamark School Uniforms
- Fire Proof Lateral File Cabinet

Items may be dropped off at the School Office or the Jacksonville Business Office between 9am-4pm Monday - Thursday. For additional information please contact our School at (904) 529-1951 or Dawn@seamarkranch.com.













