

# The Barn Bulletin



Help The Barn welcome some of its newest Board Members!



## Get To Know: Lauren Chamberlain

Lauren just joined the board of directors earlier this year. Lauren works in marketing at a woman-founded and run Operations Agency that focuses on growing businesses through processes and system implementation and people management. Prior to this, Lauren was the Director of Brand & Marketing at a non-profit called Ten Thousand Villages.

Lauren's favorite things about The Barn are the warm smiles and genuine passion of everyone who walks into the Barn. She also enjoys the Nubian goats (and their names) and claims they "have her heart."

A fun fact about Lauren is she went to elementary and middle school with Taylor Swift, as Lauren grew up in Wyoming!

Her favorite food is sushi - she could eat it for every meal for the rest of her life!

If Lauren could be any animal in the world, she thinks she would be a lemur, noting a few similar attributes, from their large blue eyes to a high energy and active spirit.

## Camp Geronimo 2023 Success

"My son attended week one of camp. He was nervous at first to go as he has never participated in camp here. From start to finish, your staff was kind, welcoming, upbeat, and helped my son to feel comfortable. He had a great experience and already said he wants to return next year. Thank you for making this a wonderful experience for my son!"

"Every year the camp is amazing and every year they strive to, and are successful, in improving and making it even better. You just don't see that anywhere anymore. You see it here!"

"My son has ADHD, anxiety and fetal alcohol syndrome. He had a very hard time with his behavior in school this year. He had the time of his life. His behavior at home reflected the special attention and patience he received at camp. He's counting the days till next summer."

"My two children who are both on the spectrum have attended two summers in a row, and they both begged me to sign them up again for next year. Each day of Camp Geronimo, they came home excited, happy, and chattering about all the fun things they did that day. This is an incredible breakthrough for my son, who doesn't talk well. I can't thank Camp Geronimo staff and counselors enough for all they did to ensure the campers had a wonderful experience!"

## IP Session 2 Registration Reminder!

You can still register your child for session 2 of the Fall 2023 Individual Program (IP) or Teen Pilot Individual Program (TIP)! Session 3 will occur over six weeks, starting October 16th. TIP takes place Tuesdays, and IP takes place Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, in one-hour sessions, from 2 to 6PM each day. Visit the link below to learn more! Register by submitting an application via our website (link below)! Sign ups are on a first come, first served basis. Acceptance into the program is based on review of the IP application and an on-site visit at The Barn at Spring Brook Farm with our Program Manager.

[www.springbrook-farm.org/programs/individual-program](http://www.springbrook-farm.org/programs/individual-program)



## From Barn to Cupboard

The Barn was able to donate 259 pounds of produce to the West Chester Food Cupboard of the Chester County Food Bank so far this year and we are still growing more produce!! A BIG thanks to all our garden helpers for keeping our gardens thriving this year!

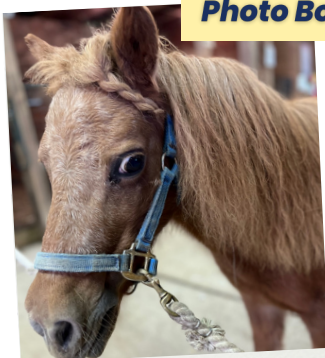


Enriching the developmental skills and lives of children with disabilities through nature-based and animal-assisted experiences.

The Barn at Spring Brook Farm is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization and is registered with the PA Bureau of Charitable Organizations.



### Photo Booth



Chestnut posing with a pretty braid!

## Let's Take a Field Trip

Come meet the animals in-person or virtually! We offer local schools and organizations serving the special needs community the opportunity to participate in field trips. We are currently booking both in-person and virtual field trips for 2024! Interested schools or organizations can inquire by visiting the link below:

[www.springbrook-farm.org/programs](http://www.springbrook-farm.org/programs)

## Calling all Volunteers!

We are in need of volunteers for Hoe Down, Autumn Fest, and/or Pancake Palooza! If you're new, go to [www.springbrook-farm.org/volunteer](http://www.springbrook-farm.org/volunteer) and click the 2023 Volunteer Application to get started. If you are a returning volunteer, simply email us at [volunteer@springbrook-farm.org](mailto:volunteer@springbrook-farm.org).

## Ways to Contribute

- **Hoe Down Sponsorship or donation:** Check your email for info about the Halloween Hoe Down silent auction which will open virtually on 10/18 and continue through 10/21 at 9:40pm. You do not need to be present to bid or win!
- **Outdoor Learning & Gardens Refresh:** We are looking for supporters interested in donating and/or planting OLC and garden materials that will help keep our spaces beautiful. (Perennial shrubs/plants, knowledge and expertise, your time and efforts). Contact us today!
- The Barn's **Annual Appeal/End of the Year Giving Campaign** kicks off on Giving Tuesday, 11/28! Learn more by visiting the link here:

[www.springbrook-farm.org/donate](http://www.springbrook-farm.org/donate)



## Upcoming Events at The Barn:

### HALLOWEEN HOE DOWN SATURDAY | OCT. 21ST | 6-10PM

Join us for a frightfully festive evening featuring a devilishly delicious dinner by Montesano Bros, bewitching beverages, enchanting entertainment, a spooktacular silent auction, and a luminous live auction.



[www.springbrook-farm.org/hoe-down](http://www.springbrook-farm.org/hoe-down)

### Autumn Fest SATURDAY | NOV. 4TH | 12-3PM

A FUN activity-filled socialization event for children with disabilities & their families!

#### Animals, Games, Hayrides, Crafts & More

Donation of \$5 per child is greatly appreciated & can be made by visiting [www.springbrook-farm.org/donate](http://www.springbrook-farm.org/donate) OR scanning the QR code here:



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## Get To Know: Nan Latona, Executive Director



**Tell us about your role here at The Barn?** *I am The Barn's Executive Director. I oversee The Barn's staff and day-to-day operations; spearhead fundraising activities and ensure The Barn is fulfilling its mission of enriching the developmental skills and lives of children with disabilities. I wear a lot of different hats!*

**What did you do before you worked at The Barn?** *Before I worked at The Barn, I had a lot of different jobs! Right out of college I worked in the music industry, and later created and managed large civic events. I became interested in corporate sponsorship and through that, fundraising for nonprofit organizations that were important to me. I have worked for or with nonprofit organizations for over 25 years!*

**How long have you worked at The Barn?** *I've worked at The Barn for just about 4 1/2 years.*

**What is your favorite thing about The Barn?** *I love the people I work with; we're like a little family. And, I'm a huge animal lover! I find it most rewarding to hear from parents about how our programs have made a profound impact on their children's lives.*

**Name a fun fact about yourself:** *I am a lifelong art student! I studied drawing, painting, photography for many years and most recently I've been taking stained glass classes.*

**If you were an animal, what would you be and why?** *That's a hard question! If I could pick a superpower, it would be having the ability to fly, so I'd probably be an eagle, which has no known natural predators. Although a crow might be a close second because they're really smart!*

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