

Hoofprints of Love

SUMMER 2014



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Hoofprints of Love is the newsletter of Begin Again Farms, Inc., a 501c-3 equine rescue in Ellerslie, GA.

If you are not on our e-mail list for the newsletter and upcoming events, please contact:

reusmannl@bellsouth.net



Max's Corner: An Eye on the Farm

Hay there again!

As spokeshorse for Begin Again Farms, I would like to thank the families that have allowed some of our horses to graze in their fields. A perfect match—they needed to keep their grass down, and we needed space so that our grass would grow and flourish again. And it is working!

I'd also like to thank the young people from the Georgia TeenWork Internship Program. They are doing incredible work in clean up, including the shelters destroyed by storms, cleaning tack, taking down the bad boards and posts in the arena and preparing it for the new fencing coming in July, preparing our new round pen for painting, painting and repairing areas such as Blue and Stretch's paddock, and many other things, including feeding and assisting with cleaning horse wounds. It is wonderful to see the Farm restoration.

Thank you also to the Young Professionals of the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce for helping at the Memorial Ride with the pony rides, silent auction and other volunteer activities.

Good Shepherd Therapeutic Center currently have some of our horses for the summer. Each of the troubled boys in their residential program care for their "own" horse, providing a unique bonding experience helpful to their healing.

Begin Again Farms participated again in a recent Wounded Warrior event, with pony rides and lots of good cheer. LOTS of our volunteers came out to participate in this event (see picture right).

Tractor Supply let us have a very productive tack sale at their most recent Pet Weekends (see picture next page).

Wellness Weekend turned out to be very instructive. We learned about acupuncture and Chinese medicine, massage (you should see the horses' faces during their special time), hoof care, dental care and reiki and our instructors answered all our questions. We watched several Parelli-school demonstration using Begin Again horses. The difference before and after were amazing! Thank you Nancy Slater, Keith Seeley, Kevin Love, Dr. Twyla Floyd, Dixie Brauer and Rebecca Pence for donating your time and expertise to help our community learn and grow!



Coming Events

RESCUE RIDE—SEPTEMBER 27

AROUND THE FARM



MEMORIAL TRAIL RIDE



Our Beautiful Trails



Modeling Our New T-shirts

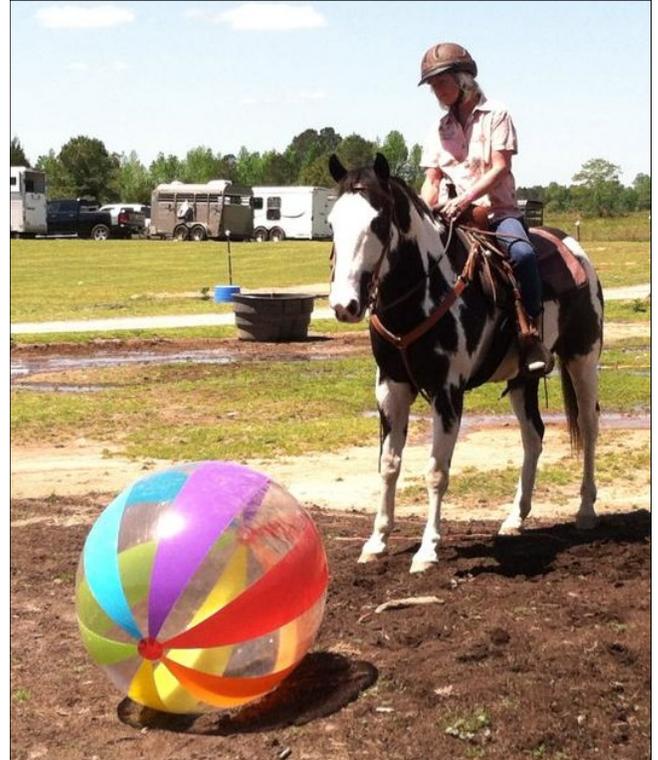


Tractor Rides onto the Trails

(continued page 5)

And, of course,
everyone's favorite:

THE OBSTACLE COURSE



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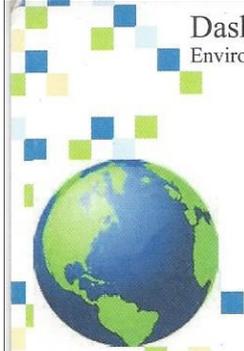
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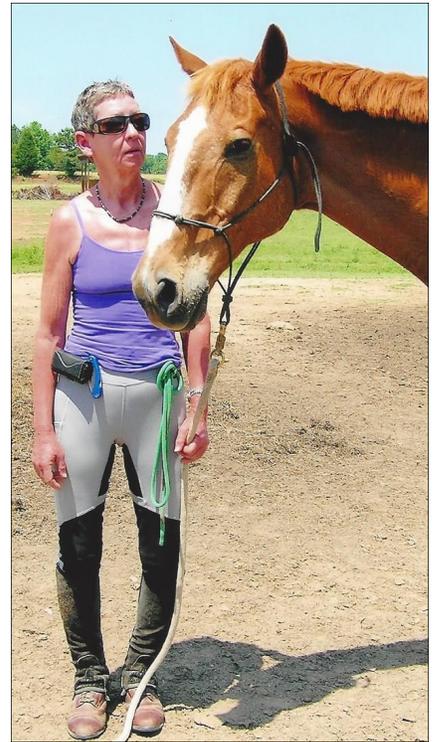
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Fax: (706) 687-8092
Email: Dasher0911@yahoo.com



RIP OLD FRIENDS



PARIS



CALLAHAN

And our beloved missing kitties:

Twitch, Sister, Whitehorn and Spot



RIP CALLAHAN 1982-2014

On a beautiful spring day this year, I said good-bye to my best friend. For the last ten years of his life Callahan resided at Begin Again Farm. He had arrived on a fall day severely emaciated with no will to live. With lots of food, attention, and love he became my dream come true horse. He was an OTTB (registered name Smoke and Flame) and had been owned by several people locally. He fell on hard times and was rescued by Rhonda.

By no small coincidence, I came to Begin Again to volunteer shortly after Callahan arrived. I could think of nothing else but him. It took several months of rehab before I could finally ride him. I learned a lot from him. He gave himself to me.



One day he was looking at a butterfly. I wish I had a camera cocked and ready at that moment. His head was bent low to the ground, ears forward, eyes soft and kind, watching the fluttering wings. A snapshot of his soul.

Almost a week after he died, a butterfly flew around me and followed me for a long

time. I knew it was a sign that he was running free and at peace.

I miss you Old Man. I always will.

Debbie Snead



UPCOMING RESCUE RIDE

September 27 will be Begin Again Farms' 7th Annual Rescue Ride. This is our largest fundraiser of the year. The Farm depends on help from all its supporters to make this a wonderful event.

Would like to join the Silent Auction team? This is much too exhausting for just one person, so this year we are asking for a committee to collect donations, prepare the paperwork and signage, organize the items, and of course, help out at the event. Contact Rhonda at 706-531-6945 if you are interested.

Will you be riding or walking our beautiful trails? Please gather sponsors to help support your ride or walk. You can find a form on page 10, and we will also be e-mailing the form to everyone on our e-mail list. There will again be prizes for the top three places. While we have not yet determined what our prizes will be for this year, in the past we have had wonderful outdoor grills, top-notch fishing equipment, hand beaded headstalls and gift certificates to Cooper's General Store.

You do not have to ride or walk our trails to collect sponsors. You can collect from individuals or businesses. We have a variety of levels available, or we can tailor your sponsors needs around this. Those who wish to remain anonymous can do so. Please see the form on page 9. We will also be e-mailing copies of this to everyone on our e-list.

Not on our e-mail list? Just send your name and e-mail address to Linna at reusmannl@bellsouth.net.

Begin Again Farms absolutely needs this Ride to be a success for our continued operation. We have had extra expenses this year after the destruction of two of our shelters by windstorms, needing to rebuild the arena, and improve some of our interior fencing. And, as you know, prices of everything from feed to gas to materials continues to rise. We are blessed with the greatest volunteer force any nonprofit could ask for, and professionals who generously discount services for us, but it still takes considerable money to operate.

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BEGIN AGAIN FARMS, INC. EQUINE SHELTER
PO Box 242 * Hamilton, GA 31811
Voice: (706) 315-6945 * (706) 570-0744
E-mail: beginagainfarm@aol.com * Website: www.beginagainfarms.com
“Help A Friend Begin Again!”

Dear Sir/Ms:

Begin Again Farms, Inc. Equine Shelter's 7th Annual Rescue Ride is coming up on Saturday, September 27, 2014 .

We would like to offer your business the opportunity to sponsor our 2014 Rescue Ride with the possibility of becoming a Presenting Sponsor, Event Sponsor, Banner Sponsor or a T-Shirt Sponsor. Before Begin Again Farms, Inc. Equine Shelter, horses in Georgia and the surrounding area were generally not impounded by animal control because no one had the capabilities or expertise to shelter and rehabilitate them. Historically, in cases where officials decided that horses were being neglected or abused, owners were ordered to sell or euthanize the animal. For over 17 years now, Begin Again Farms has been successful in providing shelter, rehabilitation and the chance to begin again for horses that would otherwise suffer or perish.

Of course, this can't happen without the support we have received from our community. In turn, we help our community by giving them public recognition when they contribute to our mission of fostering compassion and responsibility for horses through intervention, education and outreach. Our Rescue Ride is a perfect opportunity for us to say thank you to the contributors that make our mission possible by providing various promotional and advertising opportunities. Last year, we had over 100 attendees at our 6th Annual Rescue Ride and we are anticipating that number to increase this year! We have seen our t-shirts from the past Annual Rides continue to advertise for our sponsors throughout the entire year. This event is a perfect way for you to promote your business to numerous potential customers.

There are several ways that you can sponsor our efforts while promoting your business:

- (a) **“PRESENTING SPONSORSHIP” (\$1000):** Your business would be listed as a Presenting Sponsor for the Rescue Ride in all publicity for the event. Your business would receive prime placement (top-back) of your name and logo on the event t-shirts worn by our volunteers, riders/walkers and for sale to the general public. You would also receive a business card sized advertisement in our quarterly newsletter, Hoofprints of Love and a 8'x2 ½' banner displayed at all events for the period of one year, space at our Sponsors Booth for your business' promotional materials.
- (b) **“EVENT SPONSORSHIP” (\$500):** Your business would be entitled to a medium size ad under the Presenting Sponsor on our event T-shirt which is worn for years to come and acknowledged in our newsletter, Hoofprints of Love and a 6'x2-1/2' banner displayed at this event. Space is also provided at our Sponsor Booth for your business' promotional materials.
- (c) **“BANNER SPONSORSHIP” (\$200):** Your business would be entitled to a 6'x2 ½' banner displayed from the road at this event. Combine both c & d sponsorship for (\$250).
- (d) **“T-SHIRT SPONSORSHIP” (\$100):** Your business would be entitled to a business size ad on our event t-shirt given to all volunteers, riders/walkers to wear during the event and for years to come, and also for sale to the general public..

Can we count on your support for one of these levels? Please contact me at beginagainfarm@aol.com or (706) 315-6945 if you have any questions or to notify us of your support.

Sincerely,

PLEDGE FORM: BEGIN AGAIN FARMS, INC.

7th Annual Rescue Ride

Instructions:

1. Sign up supporters and list the amount they pledge on this form. Try to collect all donations before the event.
2. Submit all donations to the BAFI sign-in table. Make checks payable to "Begin Again Farms, Inc."
3. On the day of the Annual Rescue Ride/Walk, bring this completed pledge form (or a copy) to the BAFI sign-in table at Begin Again Farms.
4. After the event, collect any outstanding pledges. All pledges must be turned into BAFI Event Coordinator (Rhonda Jackson) by 09/30/2014 to qualify.

Questions? Contact Rhonda Jackson @ 706-315-6945. Thanks for your support!

Signature _____

Date _____

Participant Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Telephone:

Total Pledge Amount:

	DONOR NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	PLEDGE	PAID
1					
2					
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On the Trail....

By Alice Stagg

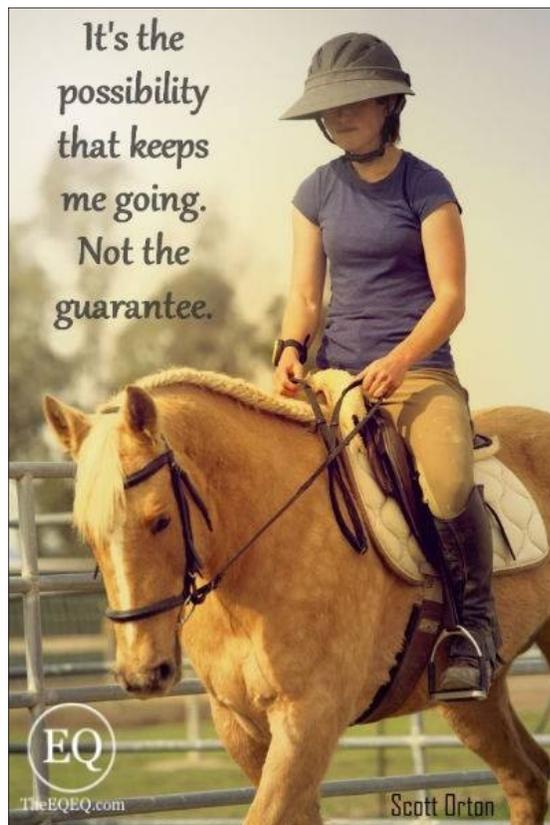
I recently participated in another dressage clinic taught by my long-time mentor, Jeff Moore. For years I was only able to ride for him once or twice a year, three or four days each time, when he was brought to this area (or somewhere within 6 hours of me) by clinic organizers. Then, I started hosting him at my own farm twice a year and was able to double my lesson exposure to his knowledge. Then, a couple of other people took the plunge and started hosting his clinics, so for the last three years, I've been able to triple my riding time with him. People who know me know that I don't have other money-pit activities, and that riding in these clinics is to me what travel, or scuba diving, or mountain biking would be to aficionados of those pastimes.

It is just my nature to want to absorb everything I can during the time I spend at these clinics. I work out mutual video services with another avid clinic rider so I can review my lessons each evening and prepare my questions and my goals for the next day in order to maximize the lesson time with Jeff. I watch the other lessons he teaches and make notes that might help me personally, not only as a rider/trainer, but as an instructor myself. In short, I spend the clinic days being as much of a learner as I possibly can be. I never thought much about this until I came across a posting on Facebook not too long ago from Chris Cox Horsemanship's page entitled "Seven Steps to Become A Better Learner".

This posting grabbed my interest because it did not say how to "Become a Better Rider", even though it was posted by a well known rider/trainer. It said how to "Become a Better Learner". What a great statement. Here in brief are the guidelines for having a positive experience at whatever guidelines one might attempt. Of course, we who are around equines think in terms of riding, but it could be applied to any kind of learning. Here is what Chris Cox posted.

1. **Be truthful to yourself about your level of knowledge or experience.**
2. **Never think you know it all.**
4. **Always listen to advice, even if it's from someone you think you are better than.**
5. **Being humble produces the best student.**
6. **If you fail, it is not failure. It is an opportunity to get better.**
7. **You are never too old to learn.**

So, no matter what you may undertake, focus on being a better Learner. I certainly plan to.



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July \$2,000 Contest and \$5 New Member Bonuses Mean Bigger Donations for Begin again farms, inc

Hi Linda,

Summer's a great time to help **Begin again farms, inc** just by sharing. Tell your friends, even friends who support some other cause or charity. Each person who joins iGive in July for the first time can mean **\$5 automatically donated** to his or her cause ... no purchase necessary! All they need to do is try the [iGive Button](#) through 10/15/14.

The person who gets the most new members to join iGive in July and try the Button through 10/15/14 **earns \$1,000** for his or her cause - **no matter what cause or charity the new members they invited choose to support**. \$500 prizes go to the second and third place winners' causes.

Share your [special Tell A Friend link](#) to get credit for the contest (it's the *only* way to get credit).

Go get the special link from: <http://www.iGive.com/html/tellafriend.cfm> .

At your [Tell A Friend](#) page you'll also be able to see which of your friends are helping you win Begin again farms, inc one of those sweet prizes.

Why share with your friends? -

1. You could **win \$1,000 or \$500** for Begin again farms, inc.
2. When friends shop, they'll help Begin again farms, inc or their own favorite cause. Why not let them take advantage of over 1,400 stores that want to help?
3. The average shopper is raising over \$30 - \$100 a year for their cause ... all for free.
4. It's simple and automatic..
5. Five bucks free, just for trying us out.
6. The more iGive members, the better the deals we can get from stores.

Spread your iGive link everywhere (Facebook's a great way, but Twitter, e-mail, blogs, bulletin boards, and hand-outs all work).

Get your personalized Tell A Friend link:
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HORSE SPONSORSHIP

What a great response Begin Again had from the request for sponsorship! Since that time, Rubin, Peppy, Tutt, Bandit, Coal, Peanut, Navajo and Prince have received full sponsorship! They are delighted to have their own person who grooms them, gives them attention, and, in many cases, rides or trains them.

The Farm's goal is to have all of our unadoptable (or less likely to be adoptable) to have sponsorships. Can't afford the time or the money for a full sponsorship? No problem! Just pick a horse from the list below for a partial sponsorship.

The following are still looking for sponsors:

BLUE (Ghostwalker) - An older gray quarter horse gelding. Loves to be groomed. He's currently living with his best friend, Stretch the steer.

CLYDE (mule) - An older guy with tons of personality.

HERSHEY, HAILEY and LILI—Miniature donkeys. Very sweet natured. Lili has done some education work. Hailey and Hershey would love to be trained to do the same.

HANDSOME—Beautiful white horse with major fear issues.

IZZY—Dun stallion, very good natured. Will never be able to be ridden due to foalhood injury.

POGO—A darling older miniature horse. A little shy, but better every day. Loves grooming and treats. Thinks he belongs with big horses, not other minis.

PRETTY BOY—This tall, handsome palomino has pemphigus, an auto-immune disorder. While he is doing much better, he still has some occasional lameness. Gentle disposition, loves to be groomed and petted.

RANSOM—Older bay with the most gorgeous sweet eyes. Very gentle. Has Cushing's disease, which is most obvious because of his incredibly long coat.

RHETT—Black 22-year-old TWH, companion animal only due to arthritis.

WILBUR—Described by the people who brought him as a "Miniature Shetland", this is a wonderful little guy who does pony rides and education.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SPONSORSHIP—

Please contact Rhonda at 706-315-6945

Horses for Adoption



BINGO

BBR BITSY CUTTER—chestnut Paint mare, who despite her name is not small. Currently under training.

BINGO—chestnut Quarter Horse gelding, 3-year-old. Leads well. (Picture taken as a 2-year-old.)

BRAYGORN—8-year-old quiet bay Thoroughbred gelding. Off the track, used for trail riding. Has been Parelli trained. Only drawback on this horse is he is a cribber.

CHARLIE—Beautiful Chestnut Tennessee Walking horse gelding. Has Flaxen mane and tail.

DILLONS ONE GUN DEAL—bay Paint gelding

LW CATALENA KATESBUCK—registered buckskin dun breeding stock Paint mare.

LENA—Paint mare with no training. Has been a brood mare.

MOSES—Handsome young mule. Prefers women. He is still shy about halters, but loves treats and company.

PEANUT II—Chestnut Tennessee Walking Horse gelding. Has now put on weight and looks great, ready for riding.

DID YOU KNOW...

You can find out more about any of our horses for adoption by going to Petfinder.com or Purina's A Home for Every Horse.



LENA

Horses for Adoption *(continued from page 9)*

PEPPER—Nice black large pony, good for riding.

PICKLEENA—registered bay Quarter Horse mare. She's had tons of training, but can be cold-backed.

RW DUALLYS MAIA JANE—registered chestnut Quarter Horse mare.

RW PLAYBOYS ARROWLENA—registered chestnut Quarter Horse mare

RAIN—Chestnut TWH gelding.

REP aka REPLICAS IMPRESSION—Over twenty-year old quarter horse gelding, full of pep. Ex-roper. Very experienced rider only. Has saddling issues.

SCOUT—Scout is a beautiful Chestnut gelding, large pony size. Scout has been started under saddle but needs lots of work before can be ridden safely.



SIRROCCO

SIROCCO—Handsome six-year-old registered Palomino Morgan gelding. Athletic, conformationally correct. He needs a firm but fair owner providing consistency in riding and ground work. He has been ridden both English and Western, and has the potential for advancing in any discipline.

TINY TIM—Small chestnut Quarter Horse/Paso Fino gelding. Three years old. Loves people.

TIZZY—This beautiful Quarter Horse mare has permanent lameness issues from being struck by a car. She's a nice horse, and would love to be adopted as a companion horse.

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TUTT

Tutt
Bandit
Peppy
Rubin



BANDIT

Wish List

Horse Supplies:

Nutrena Stock & Stable 12%
Nutrena Safe Choice Perform
Beet Pulp
In Balance
Mineral Blocks
Sweet PDZ
Shavings or Pellets for Stalls
Wormer
Fly Spray
Fly Spray for Piranha Spray Master
100 gallon water troughs
Equilix

Help: Ditch witch work to run water lines

Electrician to do minor repair work

Tack:

Harness for Draft
Any new or used saddles &
miscellaneous tack
Horse Blankets

Tools and Equipment:

Any kind of yard tools
Fence Charger
Steel T-Posts—6'
Chain for Gates
Any Size Gates
Hog or Horse Wire
Treated Lumber any size
Power tools
Ritchie automatic waterers
PVC water line pipe
Electrical supplies of:
15 junction boxes
25' Romex 12/2 wire
20 Romex connectors
Red wire nuts

Event Needs:

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All services provided by Begin Again Farms, Inc. are funded entirely by gifts and donations.

For more information about how you can help support these extraordinary equines, please contact:

**Rhonda Jackson, President
Begin Again Farms, Inc. Equine Shelter
PO Box 242
Hamilton, Georgia 31811
Phone (706) 315-6945
E-mail: beginagainfarm@aol.com
Webpage: www.beginagainfarms.com**

All in-kind items donated are tax-deductible. As Begin Again Farms, Inc. is a volunteer organization, your donations go to the horses and the foods and items to make the horses' lives happier and healthier!

YES!

I Want To Help A Friend Begin Again...

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ E-mail _____

DONATION INFORMATION:

Amount _____ (Make payable to Begin Again Farms, Inc.)

Clip off form and mail to: Begin Again Farms, Inc., PO Box 242, Hamilton, GA 31811

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are essential to Begin Again Farm's continued good work. Begin Again Farm LOVES volunteers. And volunteers have a lot of fun while doing worthwhile activities with the horses! Currently we need the following:

Morning and evening horse care volunteers: fill gaps in the schedule feeding, refilling water, cleaning stalls. No experience necessary; we will train.

Persons experienced in **training** and handling horses to help prepare them for adoption.

Fundraisers: Volunteers will help plan and carry out various fundraising events for BAFI. These events include benefit trail rides, silent auction, etc.

VOLUNTEER WORK DAY—The Second Saturday of Every Month. Help with special projects around the farm, including painting; fence construction or repair; cleaning the tack rooms, barn or trailers; trail clearing; or whatever needs to be done. We will send out e-mails in advance. *If you are not on our e-mail newsletter etc. list, please contact reusmannl@bellsouth.net*

If you wish to volunteer for any of the above, or just want to be on our list for odds and ends (fence building, painting, selling T-shirts), please contact Rhonda at 706-315-6945.

PHOTOGRAPHER WANTED

Volunteer photographer wanted to take pictures of new horses as they come in and after they have been returned to health. Pictures of adoptable equines should be suitable to be featured on Petfinder and A Home For Every Horse.

THE MISSION OF BEGIN AGAIN FARMS is to rescue imperiled, retired or abandoned hooved animals; provide a safe refuge; promote rehabilitation and return to full physical ability; provide safe adoptions for rehabilitated animals; and expand the knowledge of equine science, training and horsemanship through association with community groups and leaders.

Begin Again Farms, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization

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**Looking for an easy way to help
Begin Again Farms?**

**Print this newsletter and hang a copy
in the break room of your office of
workplace (or any waiting room)!**

**Spreading the word about Begin
Again Farms is a huge help to us!**