

Hoofprints of Love

FEBRUARY 2015—BEGIN AGAIN FARMS, INC.



CONTENTS

Max's Column	2
Upcoming Events	4
Attention Parents	5
Sponsorship	7
Sponsor Letter	9
Memorial Ride Flyer	10
Pledge Form	11
Adopted & Sponsored	12
Horses for Adoption	13
Birding Begin Again	18
Wish List	19
Volunteer Opportunities	21

Newly Arrived Cloud Meets Her New Sponsor

Souls—some sick, some tired, some hurt, some dying. They come here—some limping, some running, some hungry, some stunning. They all search—some for peace, some for friends, some for quiet, some for ends. They all want—love, respect, companionship, safety. They all find it.—John Fullick

Max's Corner: An Eye on the Farm

Max is the spokeshorse for Begin Again Farms, Inc. You can always see him standing on the corner, watching everything that is going on.

Hay (and grain or whatever you eat) all, you probably have been wondering what happened to your newsletter. Yup, we have a change of schedule. In an effort to reduce stress on our newsletter editor, the dates have now been changed to February, May, August and November. Please be sure to get anything you wish to have printed in by the 15th of the month preceding the newsletter.



Hoofprints of Love is always looking for new columns, new writers, new photographers. Have you adopted a horse from the Farm? We would love to see pictures and stories. Ideas on horsemanship, horse care, pastures and barns, nutrition, tack, etc? Write it down and send it in. Pictures of horses for adoption? Pictures of the Farm and its people? COVER PHOTOS, especially? We are toying with a photo contest idea... Please send any contributions to reusmannl@bellsouth.net

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! May 9 will be our Spring Memorial Trail Ride. Spring is the most beautiful time at the farm, with wildflowers in bloom on the trails and birds migrating (you never know what you might see). A new and improved obstacle course will be set up as well, along with raffles and silent auction. Pony rides will be offered to the little ones, and hay rides for people of all ages. Lunch will be available. Keep your ears pricked for more information. Lots of stuff to do for riders and even non-horse people!

Now y'all know that our rides are our biggest fundraiser for the year, so you'll find enclosed in the newsletter sponsor forms, flyer and everything you need to help us raise the money to support the work we do rescuing abused, neglected and unwanted horses (see pages 9, 10 and 11). We horses are expensive! We need regular hoof and veterinary care. We need lots and lots of food. Our pastures periodically need reseeding. The vehicles that bring us our grain and hay need maintenance. There are water and electric bills to pay. And the need doesn't stop—we cannot accept all the horses that are offered to us. My challenge to each of you, my readers, is to put up half a dozen flyers and sign up half a dozen pledges. Seek sponsors for the ride. You do not need to be a rider to collect sponsors. (And, remember, there are great prizes for the top three people who collect the most!)

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 *(continued from previous page)*

For some really good news, Illges Foundation has given us a grant to install a new **Automated Watering System**. This will be a huge time-saver for the volunteers who feed the horses twice a day, time that can be better spent working on the ground or in saddle with some of the horses who need training or re-training before they can be rehomed.

Even with the cold winter weather, our intrepid volunteers have been busy.



The new shelter from last year now has a good solid windbreak. Thanks Everyone! A very special thanks goes to Alice and John Stands for the shelters and funds for the materials.



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MAX'S CORNER *(continued from previous page)*

Just in case you think volunteering is all work and no play, the volunteers had a wonderful time decorating the ponies and leading them in the parade. Some rode on the hay wagon and threw candy out to all the children watching.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 14—Work Day

March 14—Work Day

April 18—Work Day

May 9—7th Annual Memorial Ride

Stay Tuned -

Volunteer Thank You Day
Date TBA

Do you have interest in a clinic or workshop that you would like Begin Again Farms to host? Please contact Rhonda at 706-315-6945.



Tracie Moore
tracie@traceablecreations.com
www.TraceableCreations.com

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ATTENTION PARENTS

So another Christmas has come and gone, and it was wonderful. But your oldest child did happen to notice (sadly) that there was no pony underneath the tree. You found she had posted this photo to your Facebook page:

Sigh.

You aren't sure what to do with this child. She (or he) is horse crazy, reads every book available, watches westerns while her friends are watching vampires and princesses. Yet she hasn't had anything to do with real horses except for pony rides when she was very small.

You just aren't sure it isn't a phase she will outgrow. You aren't sure if she understands how much care is involved in taking care of a horse. She feeds and cleans up after her hamster, but horses need a lot more. You aren't sure if she is motivated enough to do the work. And you are positive that she doesn't know enough about caring for horses from reading the Black Stallion series or Marguerite Henry stories.

What can a parent do?

Well, there are a couple ways your child can learn about the time and effort involved, learn about horse care, and you can test her endurance.



The first is to commit to feeding once per week at Begin Again Farms, Inc. Equine Shelter. Horses are fed twice a day, seven days a week, so you have some options. The volunteers will train you, and you may be amazed at how much other information you pick up. This is a great parent-child bonding experience as well. And it will look great on her college application. Each feeding session takes between two and three hours, rain or snow or shine, cold or hot. It involves food preparation, delivering food to the geezer group at the barn and the horses in the outlying paddocks, filling water troughs, going back to pick up empty food bowls, and mucking stalls. Mostly it is wonderful, but in the winter there are days when you must dress until you look like a blimp, and the water tanks need the ice broken with a hammer and scooped out with a fish net. Rarely but occasionally, your boot might try to stay with the mud instead of on your foot. You WILL get dirty.

(continued next page)

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PARENTS *(continued from previous page)*

If you are not in a rush, you and your child can hang out with the horses, learn how to halter and groom a horse, put on blankets to keep the horses warm, watch horses being trained, bring your lunch and learn how to fend off begging donkeys and cats. You could get involved in decorating ponies for the December parade.

Another possibility is to sponsor a horse for a year. This will give you an idea of how often your child will be willing to come out to see the horse, whether she grooms him regularly, and whether they are bonding. (See more on sponsorship on the next page).



The third possibility is to commit to workdays on the second Saturday of each month. Work can consist of any level of expertise, including but not limited to, removing cobwebs from the barn, mucking pony pens, sweeping stalls, cleaning tack, carpentry needs, fencing, painting, and many other things too numerous to name. Much will depend upon the age and capabilities of you and your child. Again, this is a great parent-child bonding experience. You can meet up with other parent-child teams and enjoy yourselves.

Begin Again Farms is dedicated to helping the current or future horse owner. In this welcoming and peaceful environment, one cannot help but learn and be amazed.

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mossnsns@gmail.com

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HORSE SPONSORSHIP CAMPAIGN

Please help us with a sponsorship for our unadoptable or education animals. Jim received Cloud's sponsorship (see cover picture) as a Christmas present. Cloud came in severely debilitated, and Jim has been out every day spending time with her so that she will feel treasured. She is making remarkable strides, and we hope to have a great before and after picture of the two of them for our next newsletter.

Spend as much time or as little as you wish with your sponsored horse. All of our horses bloom when they have someone who regularly brushes them, gives them treats, and tells them they are beautiful. However, if you wish only to donate to their care in their name, you can do that too!

The following are still looking for their special someone:

EDUCATION ANIMALS:

PEANUT—(*Picture right*) The Farm's first education pony. Peanut visits schools, works the pony rides, participates in costume in the Waverly Hall Parade every year.

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.

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



RETIRED HORSES:

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



CLYDE - (*pictured bottom left*) An older mule with tons of personality.

HANDSOME—Gorgeous white horse with major fear issues.

IZZY—Dun stallion, very good natured. Will never be able to be ridden due to foalhood injury. Izzy has a partial (financial only) sponsorship.

(continued on next page)

Sponsorship Campaign—continued from previous page

PICKLEENA—registered bay Quarter Horse mare, 21 years old and going strong. She's had tons of training, but can be cold-backed. This mare knows a lot. Experienced rider only. Pickleena needs to be sponsored this year while she recovers from allergic reactions to tick bites.

POGO—A darling older miniature horse. Loves grooming and treats.

PRETTY BOY—(picture right) 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—(picture left) Older bay with the most gorgeous sweet eyes. Very gentle. He has Cushing's disease, which is most obvious because of his long coat.

RHETT—Black 22-year-old Tennessee Walking Horse, very shy, but improving.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SPONSORSHIP—

Please contact Rhonda at 706-315-6945



Bobby Noland
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Office: 706-582-2630
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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!"

February 1, 2015

Dear Sir/Ms:

Begin Again Farms, Inc. Equine Shelter's 7th Annual Memorial Ride is coming up on Saturday, May 09, 2015 .

We would like to offer your business the opportunity to sponsor our 2015 Memorial Ride with the possibility of becoming a **Presenting Sponsor, Event 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 18 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 **Memorial 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 Memorial 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.

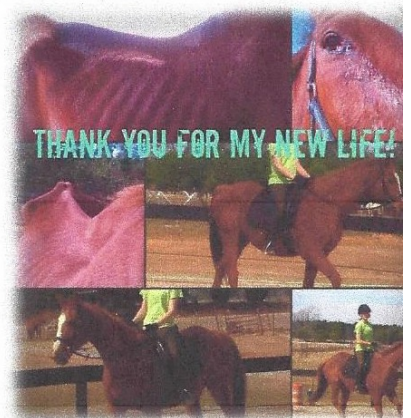
There are several ways that you can sponsor our efforts while promoting your business:

- (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 acknowledgement in our newsletter, *Hoofprints of Love*, and an 6'x2 ½' 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,

Rhonda Jackson
President
Begin Again Farms, Inc. Equine Shelter





**BEGIN AGAIN FARMS, INC.
EQUINE SHELTER**



7th ANNUAL

“MEMORIAL TRAIL RIDE”

In loving memory of our friends and family



When: Saturday May 09, 2015 9am-4pm

**Where: Begin Again Farms-Equine Shelter
2035 Harris Road Ellerslie, GA**

Cost: \$30.00 for riders (includes lunch & t-shirt)



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Join us for a fun day for riders, family and friends

Lunch available for non-riders \$6.00

PROCEEDS DONATED TO BEGIN AGAIN FARMS, INC.

For more info: Rhonda Jackson, President 706-315-6945

Negative Coggins test required for each horse entering property.

PLEDGE FORM: BEGIN AGAIN FARMS, INC.

7th Annual Memorial 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 Memorial Ride, 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 5/15/15 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					
3					
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6					
7					
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9					
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16					
17					
18					
19					

Adopted & Sponsored This Quarter

Wakaya
Bandit
Pepper
Noah



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& HER NEW CHILDREN**

Sponsored This Quarter

Cloud, Peppy (renewal), Scooby (renewal), Kitty (renewal)

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Horses for Adoption

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED HORSE:

DON'S BLESSING—

This wonderful chestnut Welsh pony/Quarter Horse mare is 17 years old and in excellent health.

She has done work with English and Western riding, and is terrific on the trails.

She spent this past summer working with children at Good Shepherd Therapeutic Center, and is now seeking her forever home.



(continued on following page)

Horses for Adoption *(continued from previous page)*

BBR BITSY CUTTER—chestnut Paint (Tob-overo) mare, who despite her name is not small. Super nice, stands for farrier and fly spray, loads. Needs experienced rider.

BEAUTY— **(Pictured right)** Bay mare tall pony, has done barrel racing, likes children, is a bit of a pistol.

BINGO—handsome sorrel Quarter Horse gelding, 3-year-old. Leads well. Will mature into a small horse. From cutting stock, but no papers. Accepts deworming paste and behaves well in herd situations. The best deal for Bingo is a knowledgeable and confident horse person who will understand his rough start in life. He came to us very suspicious of people, but has made great progress.



BRAYGORN— **(Pictured left)** 8-year-old quiet bay Thoroughbred gelding. Off the track, used for trail riding. Has been Parelli trained. Only drawback is that he is a cribber.

CHAMP—bay 3 year old Quarter Horse gelding. Ready to start training and can go in any direction. Has basic ground manners, accepts deworming paste and fly spray. Behaves well in herd environment. Socialized.

CHARLIE—**(Pictured right)** Beautiful Chestnut Tennessee Walking horse gelding. Has Flaxen mane and tail. Sweet disposition.

GOLDIE—Palomino quarter horse mare, halter broken, leads well.



(continued on page 12)

Horses For Adoption *(continued from previous page)*

JUNIPER- (pictured below) Juniper is a lovely bay pinto Welsh pony x Quarter Horse mare. She moves beautifully, has striking coloration and a sweet personality. Juniper has been a hunter/jumper pony, and has done some trails. This past summer she worked with the children at Good Shepherd Therapeutic Center. She is well mannered and loads well into a trailer. She is looking for the perfect home that will love and care for her.



LADY—Eye-catching bay Quarter Horse mare, one blue eye, 3 years old. Accepts deworming paste, fly spray. Behaves well in herd environment. Socialized.

LENA—Gorgeous paint mare with good pedigree and no training. She has been a brood mare.

LUKE—(pictured bottom right) bay Holsteiner gelding. Some English training, has done low-level eventing. Minor arthritis in hocks so he will not be able to jump. Needs experienced rider.

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

MOSES—Handsome young mule. He has some trust issues. He does enjoy human company (especially if they are bearing treats). Takes treats very gently.

Moses needs a mule-savvy person who will work with him one-on-one until he regains his trust.



Horses for Adoption *(continued from page 9)*

PEANUT II—Chestnut Tennessee Walking Horse gelding. He neck reins, loads and stands for farrier. Peanut II has excellent ground manners and is a great mover.

PHOENIX—Sorrel Quarter Horse gelding, halter broken, leads well, stands for farrier.

PRINCESS—Pinto miniature horse mare. Prefers children.

RW DUALLY'S MAIA JANE—(Pictured top right) really cute registered chestnut Quarter Horse mare. Small, wonderful personality. Has lots of potential for a knowledgeable person.



RW FRECK'S FANCY LENA—bay Quarter Horse mare, sound, unbroken. Freckles Playboy, One Gun, Doc O'Lena, Smart Peppy on papers. Spirited and beautiful.

RW PLAYBOYS ARROWLENA—(Pictured bottom right) registered chestnut Quarter Horse mare, 14 hands. Friendly, quiet and sound. Unbroken with lots of potential for a knowledgeable person.



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

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RAIN—(Pictured top right) Chestnut Tennessee Walking Horse gelding.



SIROCCO—(Pictured bottom right) 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. **ADOPTION PENDING.**

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.



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.

A business card for Shirley Bolt, EA Accountant. The card has a blue background with a yellow lightning bolt graphic. It features the IRS e-file logo, the text "Accounting Tax Preparation", "Shirley's Accounting", "3776 U.S. Hwy. 80 W. Phenix City, Alabama 36870", "www.shirleysaect.com", "Shirley Bolt, EA Accountant", "Office (334) 297-3209", and "Fax (334) 297-3207".

BIRDING BEGIN AGAIN

Last summer we had a wonderful visit on the Begin Again Farms' pond of several Wood Storks. According to the bird guide, they are not even supposed to be in this area. These birds were listed as endangered in 1984, after dramatic declines in their breeding colonies. They first arrived in Georgia in 1965, and now the state supports about 20% of the U.S. population.

The Farm is gradually building a bird list of all the species we have seen at the Farm and on the trails.

Can you help? As you notice by the list, our compilers are not particularly good at LBJs (Little Brown Jobs). We know there are more birds out there.

Canada Goose
Mallard
Muscovy Duck (domestic)
Pekin Duck (domestic)
Hooded Merganser
American Coot
Great Blue Heron
Little Blue Heron
Great Egret
Cattle Egret
Snowy Egret
Wood Stork
Killdeer
Wild Turkey
Bald Eagle
Northern Harrier
Red Tailed Hawk
Black Vulture
Turkey Vulture
Mourning Dove
Rock Dove
Pileated Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Eastern Kingbird
Eastern Phoebe
Barn Swallow
White Breasted Nuthatch
Brown Headed Nuthatch
Mockingbird
American Robin
Wood Thrush
Brown Headed Cowbird
European Starling
Northern Cardinal
Kingfisher
Shrike
White Throated Sparrow



Wood Storks



Pileated Woodpecker

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
Equilix

Help: 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'
Any Size Gates
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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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Equine Shelter
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BEGIN AGAIN FARMS, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President—Rhonda Jackson
Secretary—Joleen Till
Treasurer—Heidi Bryan

John Fullick	Shelley Stansell
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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!**