

# Hoofprints of Love

NOVEMBER 2015—BEGIN AGAIN FARMS, INC.



—*"We thought we were at a horse rescue.  
..Turns out the horses are running a people  
rescue."*

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## CALENDAR:

November 14—Annual Tack/Yard Sale (see page 5)

December 12—Open House and Stuff-A-Horse-Trailer followed by Waverly Hall Parade

## 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.*

Well, the sad news is that I am not yet standing on the corner after my accident in the storm. The good news is that my broken legs are glued back on! I am only waiting for my new paint job, and then I will be coming home at last! So, you have to look at a picture of my first incarnation.

So, I've been gathering bits and saddles, oops, no, I meant bits and snippets of information about what has been happening at the Farm since I've been hospitalized at Kerry's. Oh, I so wish I were there to say "Hay!" to everyone! So here goes:

Volunteers off-loaded hay into the barn. What else is new, you say? Volunteers spend a lot of time off-loading hay. Well, what's new is our wonderful new elevator making it smooth and easy! Thank you, John and Alice Sands for donating it, and Paul Madias and Jim Fuller for putting it together!



If you get a chance, go check out the two tack rooms. Volunteers have done a tremendous job putting them into shape, and then cleaning all the saddles and bridles. If you happened to see those rooms before they started, you will know it was a daunting task—you could hardly get in the door.

The new Ritchie automatic watering system has proved not just helpful for our volunteers, but have cut our water bills by half. The horses like them, too!



*(continued on following page)*

*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)*



We have two new roosters that were dumped at the Farm. Rhonda, of course, said, "Oh no, not chickens again!" and promptly named them Woodrow and Wilson. Wilson will meet you at the gate, and Woodrow at the barn. They will circle you as though you are a hen, and, like a hen, you can ignore them—OR (at least with Woodrow) pick him up and cuddle him. Both roosters like to have rides on the Gator when you are feeding.

And then we had a great rescue ride. Obstacle course, trails, pony rides, BBQ lunch (with chicken for those of us with alpha-gal allergies or the few that don't like BBQ), lots of fun. Lots and lots of happy faces. Here are a few of my favorite pictures:



*(continued on following page and page 6)*

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**Rescue Ride 2015**





# Annual Tack/Yard Sale

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**When: Nov. 14, 2015**

**8:00am-3:00pm**

**Where: Ellerslie Depot  
next door to the  
Fire Dept. in  
Ellerslie, GA**

**Table Rental: \$25.00**

tables are limited,  
please RSVP your table in advance

**Rhonda Jackson  
706-315-6945**

**All proceeds and donations go  
towards supporting the rescue,  
rehabilitation and rehoming of the  
horses at Begin Again Farms, Inc.**

***Help a friend, begin again, come by and  
support your local equine rescue shelter.***

Begin Again Farms, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.  
Webpage: [www.beginagainfarms.com](http://www.beginagainfarms.com)

## MAX'S CORNER *(continued from page 3)*

***Why are our rides and other fund-raisers so important?*** You may be tired of hearing us ask for riders and walkers to get sponsors, for our supporters to encourage sponsorships, for people to sponsor horses. Do you know how much it costs to care for all our animals? Total operating expenses for the last fiscal year was over \$98,000, and we had a deficit of \$11,000. Hay alone costs a little under \$20,000 per year. Feed, veterinary bills, farrier bills, printing, insurance, equipment & facilities repairs and utilities can add up in no time. Think ahead toward our spring Memorial Ride. Who do you know that might be willing to have a T-shirt (or larger) sponsorship? Doctors, dentists, insurance agencies, car dealers, other businesses you support? If you are a rider or walker, can you have ten people or more pledge \$5 or more toward your ride? It all adds up! We need everyone's help in order to help horses in need. We are also looking for Silent Auction items and large raffle item(s).



Having Lunch with Friends and Catching Up on Gossip

# On the Trail....

*By Alice Stagg*

As an instructor, when I get on a horse, sometimes I get the feeling that the owner thinks I'm wasting time because they don't see much going on. However, I'm actually quite busy listening to what the horse is telling me and making appropriate adjustments to show it the way I'd like it to choose to go. This takes time, and my approach is "I've got all the time in the world", even if in fact I know that I had plans to be somewhere else at a particular time. I don't let that affect the communication with the horse. I make sure that I organize the work session so that it progresses in a positive manner and ends on a pleasant note. This approach doesn't only apply to riding in a lesson. It is just as useful for pleasure riding of any kind. Some riders don't yet have that installed in their mental attitude. It doesn't mean they are bad or poor riders. They just need to embrace the "slow time down" philosophy of working with horses.

Horses learn retrospectively and by repetition, so an approach to the horse-human relationship that focuses on consistency and fairness of the request is quite successful. I think of everything I do with a horse as "training", whether interacting on the ground or from the saddle. As is true of humans, some horses learn more quickly than others. However, when it comes to horses, all learn the same way – retrospectively and by repetition. A hurried, impatient approach will only create tension and defensiveness in the horse, leading to a downward spiral into defeat and frustration for both horse and rider. It is also true that it only takes about three repetitions of an undesirable behavior for it to become instilled in a horse, but it takes about one hundred repetitions of the desired behavior to replace the unwanted behavior with the desired one in a horse's response system. Personally, I don't want to aggravate or escalate a situation that results in undesirable behavior being installed in any horse I work with. The solution is to take your time and train in an unhurried, patient, consistent and fair manner.

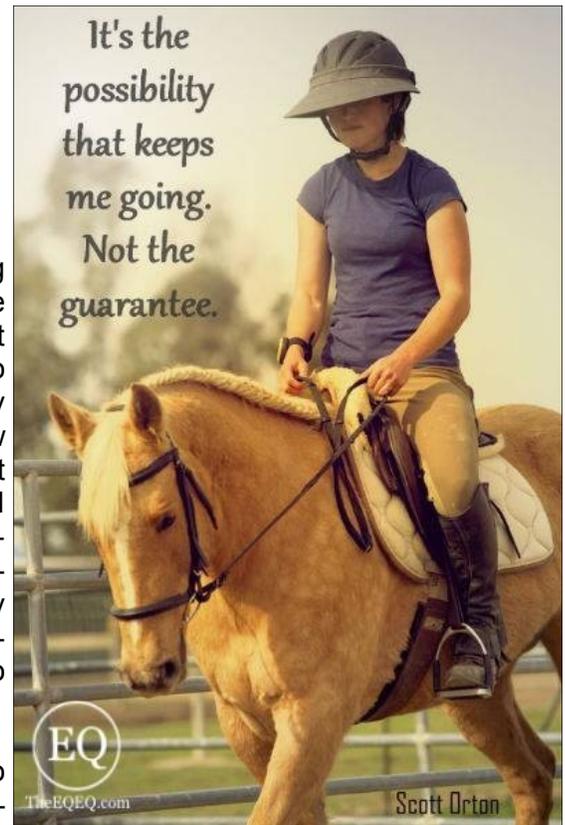
When I first undertook to provide articles for this newsletter, I told you that often the information I shared would come from other sources; sources who are far more articulate and knowledgeable than I. There is a blog I enjoy called Horse Collaborative. There was an article posted in August that initially caught my eye because of its title "Horse Time Versus Human Time". Written by a gentleman named Tim Hayes, I thought it addressed a number of important points in the horse-human relationship. In today's hurry-up world, he offers excellent advice on the importance of recognizing how horses see time and how we should adjust our own behaviors to assure that we approach our dealings with the horses in the best possible way. Here is the article in its entirety, and at the end, something about the author.

## **HORSE TIME VERSUS HUMAN TIME**

*BY TIM HAYES*

Someone once said that God invented time to keep everything from happening at once. In fact, humans invented time in order to help bring order, meaning and understanding to their unique existence. As far as we know, humans are the only animals with recognized self-awareness, rational thinking and therefore a mental concept of time. Other animals may be aware of the physical changes in day and night, summer and winter and thus able to respond to these changes, but it is only us humans that will ever know if we are "late." A horse, for that matter, never thinks: "Oh my, I'm running out of time." Understanding and remembering this significant difference will have an enormous impact on how you and your horse get along and the success you will achieve in your horsemanship and riding.

*(continued on next page)*



Today, more than ever, humans live by the clock. We fit every minute of our lives into a schedule. We create agendas with predetermined requirements as to how much time it will take to achieve satisfaction in everything we do. However, when we think something must happen within a certain amount of time and doesn't, it is always a set up for stress, tension, anger, frustration and disappointment.

Being "late" is one of many examples that can illustrate both the difference and the importance of horse and human time. EXAMPLE: If I ride on Wednesdays at 4pm and don't get to the barn until 3:55pm, I may rush to groom and tack up my horse, so I can get in as much riding time as possible. Knowing that I am "late," I think I'm using up valuable riding time while getting my horse ready to ride. This thought makes me anxious and tense. Instead of presenting myself to my horse as a happy, calm, relaxed friend and leader, I show him a partner who is anxious, frustrated, preoccupied and tense. The quality of my grooming and saddling, which is usually a nice way to connect with my horse, is now a signal to him that something is not right with his human partner. My horse does not know I'm late, because "being late" does not exist in his world. All he knows is that I'm anxious and not relaxed.

As we start to ride I feel a resistance coming from my horse. He's communicating to me with his body (the only way he knows how). He's telling me: "Your body feels tense and that makes me anxious. I'm not feeling very safe and comfortable with you on my back right now, can you do something to change what I'm feeling from you... can you help me?" I think, "Oh, that's great. Not only am I going to run out of riding time, but I'm going to have to struggle with my horse and his bad attitude." I do what many people do; I blame the horse for the problem. I begin to feel angry and frustrated and my cues become rough and heavy-handed. This is frightening for my horse. He thinks, "Not only is my partner anxious, he's hurting me!" At this point, my horse will usually do one of two things. He'll either emotionally and mentally shut down, brace himself and do everything he can to tolerate me until the ride is over. This is how humans create dullness in their horses. Or my horse will ask me to leave (read: buck me off). This is how humans get hurt.

Natural horsemanship is seeing and understanding every situation from the horse's point of view. It's taken me years and many mistakes to remember the enormous impact time, or the nonexistence of time, has on me, my horse and my horsemanship. And, like everything else I've had to do to get my horse to be better, I had to be better. I had to change my behavior first. Now when I get to the barn and I'm "late," I change my agenda. I adjust to fit the situation. Instead of doing 20 minutes of groundwork and 40 minutes practicing flying lead changes, I might just practice some groundwork or take a nice leisurely ride with the time I have left. If I'm "very late" I may just spend time with my horse and let him graze.

### About the Author



Tim Hayes is the author *RIDING HOME: The Power of Horses to Heal*. It is this amazing power of horses to heal and teach us about ourselves that is accessible to everyone and found in the pages this book. Every book ordered will benefit veterans with PTSD, children with autism, and children of families in need. Learn more at [ridinghome.com](http://ridinghome.com). For Tim's clinics, private sessions, books, DVD's and more articles go to [Hayesisforhorses.com](http://Hayesisforhorses.com).

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By putting myself on "horse time," I show understanding and respect for my partner who lives in the moment and has no schedule or agenda. Then, no matter what we do, we are spending quality time together—not just physically, but emotionally and mentally. Our relationship becomes stronger, my horsemanship gets better and neither of us ends up frustrated, disappointed, dull or hurt and...we usually have a great time.

Love is what we give our time to – Children know this so do horses.

# SPONSORSHIP

Help a horse at Begin Again Farms with a sponsorship for one of our unadoptable horses. You can spend as much or as little time with your sponsored horse as you wish.



**COCOA**—Young black mare, very sweet.. Cocoa is blind in one eye and cannot see well out of the other.

**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.

**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. *(Pictured above left)*

**PRETTY BOY**—This tall, handsome palomino has pemphigus, an auto-immune disorder. While he has not had an outbreak in a long time, he still has some occasional lameness. Gentle disposition, loves to be groomed and petted—the more attention, the better he does.



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

**RHETT**—Black 28-year-old Tennessee Walking Horse. Has gotten over much of his shyness and will approach people, especially if they are bearing treats.

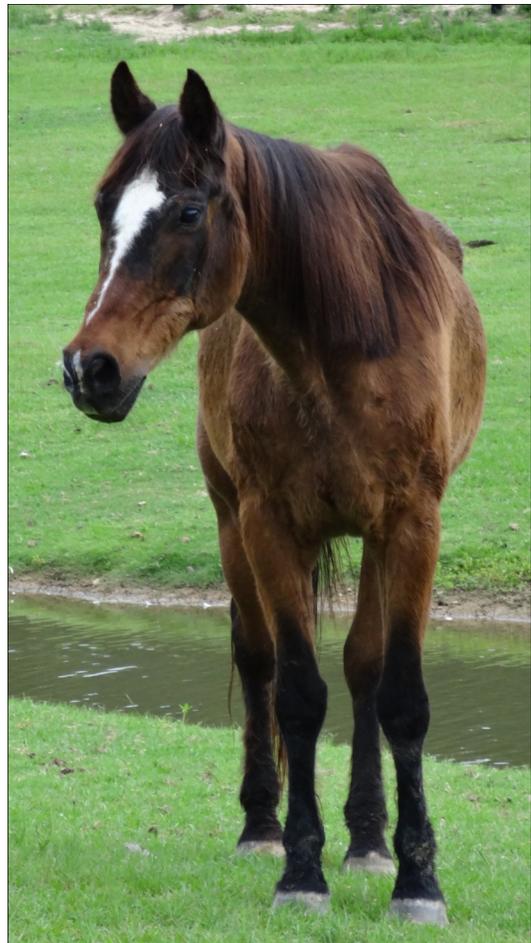
**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SPONSORSHIP**— Please contact Rhonda at 706-315-6945

## GOODBYE OLD FRIEND

Our beloved Ransom has crossed over the Rainbow Bridge.

What a sweet-natured, gentle horse! You could put the smallest child on his back, and he would be as careful and smooth as possible.

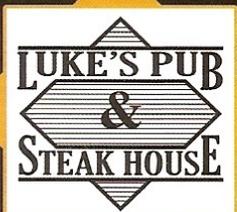
We will remember his large kind eyes, his soft fur, his willingness to stand and be hugged if one were having a hard day.



**A Special Thank You To**

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**For their Sponsorship**



Bobby Noland  
Owner

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**Adopted This Quarter**

Duke

Little Bit

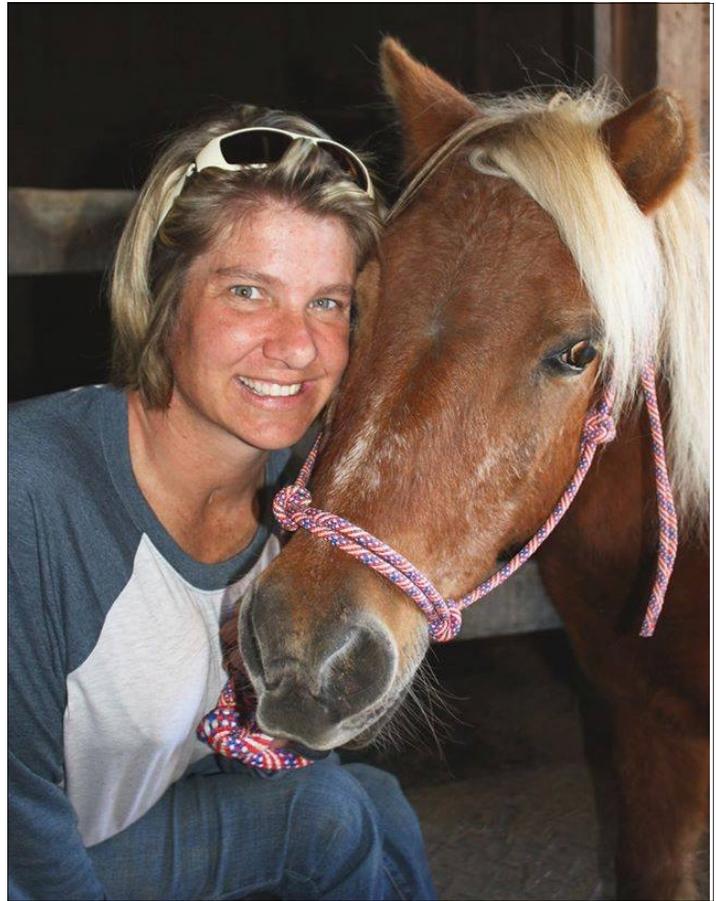
Phoenix

**Sponsored This Quarter**

Peanut

**Fostered This Quarter**

Tahoe (adoption pending)



**Adopters Send Their Pictures**

Dillon went to his first hunt. How he felt about it? He couldn't have cared less! "What a sweet pony!"



## **RESCUE RIDE THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING:**

ALICE & JOHN SANDS  
RAMONA & JOEY  
    LOUDERMILK  
HELEN & JIM FULLER  
PATRICIA MALLOY & FAMILY  
MEG & PHIL CAREY  
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BEACON HILL INVESTMENT  
    ADVISORY

**ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS THAT MADE  
THE 2015 RESCUE RIDE A SUCCESS**

## Colby Allen Hooper

### We Will Miss You



It is with sad hearts that Begin Again Farms says goodbye to volunteer Colby Allen Hooper, who passed away October 24, 2015, at age 18. Colby has been a volunteer with the Farm for years, along with his mother Angie and brother Austin.

He was a member of Greater Life Baptist Church; and family, friends, and faith were all important aspects of his life. He graduated from Harris County High School in May 2015 and had recently begun working at Hagelin Flavor Technologies,

Colby enjoyed playing little league baseball as a young child and then co-coaching with his father when he got older. He loved spending time with family and friends, whether that was playing golf, fishing, or

hunting, and was so proud that he had just recently shot his very first deer on a hunting trip with his friends. He also loved to travel to the beach and the mountains, and loved driving his Ford pickup truck.

The family asks that donations be made to either to Our House at Carpenter's Way (<http://www.themethodisthome.org/designated-giving/>), or The Valley Rescue Mission Camp Joy (<http://www.valleyrescuemission.org/community-ministries/camp-joy/>).

The family also requests that continued prayers be lifted for Hunter Grantham, and Richard Barfield, II.



# Horses for Adoption



**BBR BITSY CUTTER**—(*Pictured left*) 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**—(*Pictured bottom right*) 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 bottom left*) 8-year-old quiet bay Thoroughbred gelding. Off the track, used for trail riding. Has been Parelli trained. His only drawback is that he is a cribber.

## Horses for Adoption *(continued from previous page)*



**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)  
Nice gelding. Loads, rides.very sweet guy. Flaxen mane and tail



**CHIQUITA**—*Pictured above, left*) Smart little mare. Will make a really nice horse for someone with the knowledge to train her. She catches on very quickly. Has Arabian racing bloodlines. No papers

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

**JUNIPER-** *(pictured right)* 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. 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.



## Horses for Adoption *(continued from previous page)*



**LW CATALENA KATESBUCK**—Registered solid paint-bred dun mare, very sweet.

**LADY**—*(Pictured left)* This little lady is an eye catcher!!! Lady is a pretty quarter horse type, bay filly with one blue eye and a wide blaze. She accepts deworming paste, fly spray, and behaves well in a herd environment/ socialized. She is up to date on vaccinations and Coggins. Lady was foaled in 2011, and has started basic training.

**LUKE**—*(pictured below)* 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.



# Horses for Adoption *(continued from previous page)*

**MOSES—(Pictured left)** 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.



**PEANUT II—(Pictured right top)** Peanut II is a very sweet chestnut Tennessee Walking Horse gelding. He handles well on the ground. He loads beautifully and is great on the trails.

He can be mildly cold backed when first mounted. Not for a beginner right now.



**PRINCESS—(Pictured right bottom)** This nice chestnut Arabian mare needs an experienced rider. She is green-broke and needs experience. She has a lot of fire.

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Charlene Jones & Michael Senn



## Horses for Adoption *(continued from previous page)*

**RW DUALLYS MAIA JANE**—Really cute registered chestnut Quarter Horse mare. Small, wonderful personality. Has lots of potential for a knowledgeable person.



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



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

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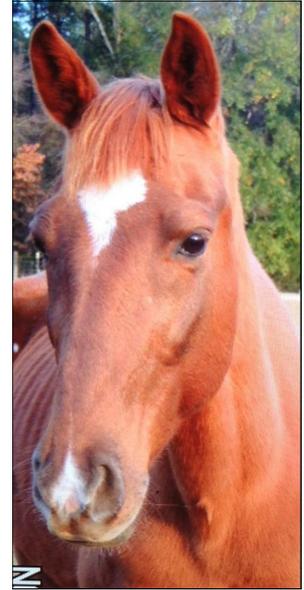
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mossns@gmail.com

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## Horses for Adoption *(continued from previous page)*

**RAIN—***(Pictured right and below)* Chestnut Tennessee Walking Horse gelding.



**SIROCCO—***(Pictured right)* Gorgeous 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.



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## Horses for Adoption *(continued from previous page)*

**TINY TIM—(Pictured right)** Tim is a handsome sorrel gelding with a diamond shaped star and 1 left hind sock. At 13.1hds and 650lbs, he had a rough start in life but oddly enough, is a compliant little fella. He has been clipped and saddled. He will mature into a small adult horse. Tim stands for the vet and farrier, stands tied, has basic ground manners, accepts deworming paste, fly spray, and behaves well in a herd environment/ socialized. He is up to date on vaccinations and coggins. Tim was foaled in 2011.



**TIZZY—(Pictured left)** 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.

### *Saddle Up Tack and Feed*



Kris Weaver  
Owner

9932 Veteran's Pkwy  
Midland, GA 31820  
Email: [saddleuptacknfeed@att.net](mailto:saddleuptacknfeed@att.net)

Phone: (706) 317-5515  
Mobile: (706) 984-1191  
Fax: (706) 317-5536



Tracie Moore  
[tracie@traceablecreations.com](mailto:tracie@traceablecreations.com)  
[www.TraceableCreations.com](http://www.TraceableCreations.com)

**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

**Tools and Equipment:**

Any kind of yard tools  
Fence Charger  
Steel T-Posts—6'  
Any Size Gates  
Hog or Horse Wire  
Treated Lumber any size  
Power tools

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Any new or used saddles &  
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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  
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Hamilton, Georgia 31811  
Phone (706) 315-6945  
E-mail: [beginagainfarm@aol.com](mailto:beginagainfarm@aol.com)  
Webpage: [www.beginagainfarms.com](http://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!**