

Hoofprints of Love

FEBRUARY 2016

BEGIN AGAIN FARMS, INC. EQUINE SHELTER



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**8th ANNUAL MEMORIAL RIDE
APRIL 30, 2016**

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 everyone, I'm ba-ack!!!! It is so good to be back after surgery on two of my legs and a new paint job. Thank you, Kerry Willey, for making me whole and new again. Just another Begin Again Farms miracle horse!

So what's new at the Farm? Rain, rain, lots of rain, sunshine and more rain. Despite that, our intrepid volunteers put up our new donated interior fencing, even working in very cold and windy weather into the dark. Do you realize how much interior fencing there is? Just when you think "it is done", there is a whole 'nother section somewhere else. It looks great. It will look even greater once it is painted. (Volunteers note: be sure to wear clothes you don't mind getting paint on. You already know not to wear anything that can't go right into the washing machine. But it's fun getting dirty, right?) Please see photos on the following page. Thank you, Loudermilk family, for donating this wonderful fencing!



We are still in need of replacing two run-in shelters which were severely damaged in wind storms. Estimated cost of materials to do this will run about \$5500. If you can help, please let Rhonda know.

Special thanks are due to Steve Thillen, who arrived seconds after the Gator tire went flat halfway through feeding, took it off, got it repaired, and put it back on in record time. And to Ronnie Sewell, with Waverly Hall Tire and Auto, who dropped everything to come help a volunteer stuck at the Farm with car trouble.

Now, we did have one piece of bad news. One of the neighbors who has let some of our excess horses graze on their pastures sold the property and we had to move these horses back to the Farm. So, we have too many horses on too little land. Solutions? We are in the process of looking for additional pasturage. If you have some, or know someone who does, please let us know. Or if you would like to foster a horse or two to keep your horse company, that would also be wonderful. We are also not taking in any more horses until some get adopted.

Which leads me to remind you that spring is coming. Spring is always the time when people are thinking they need a horse (or another horse), and our adoptions are the highest. If there is someone in the adoption pages in the newsletter that tickles your fancy, please do not wait. Someone else may get to your favorite first.

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

PUTTING UP THE FENCES



First, Dig The Hole



Second, Put up Verticals



Third, Put in Horizontals

Fourth:

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In Another Location*

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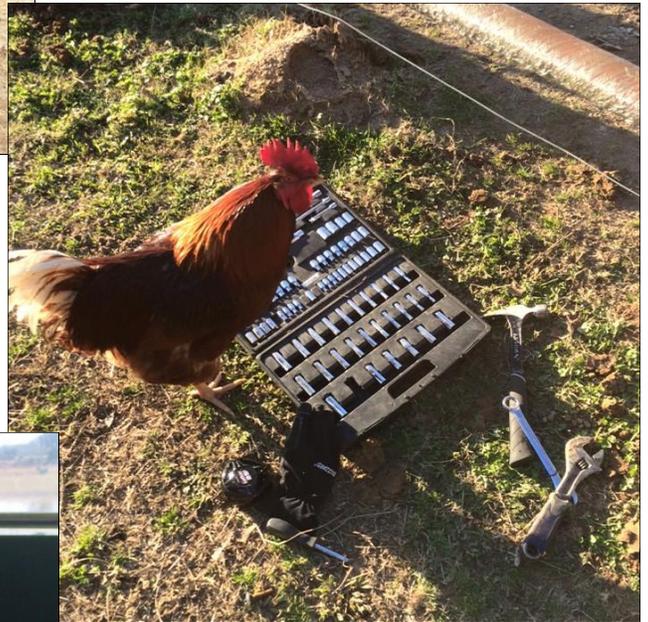
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On the Trail....

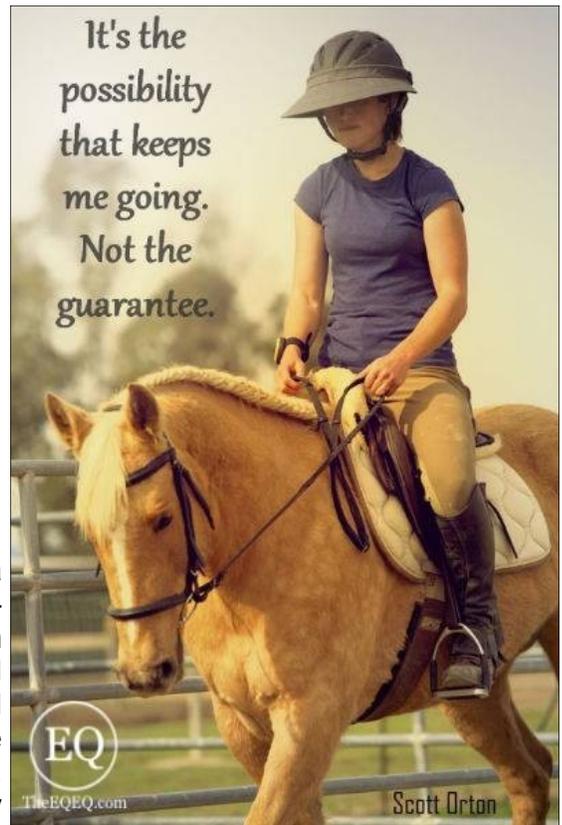
By Alice Stagg

“The horse will teach you if you’ll listen.” - Ray Hunt

“I try to feel what the horse is feeling and then operate from where the horse is.” – Tom Dorrance

“Everything you do with a horse is a dance.” – Buck Brannaman

For my first newsletter article of the new year, I’ve been thinking a lot about how important it is for humans to be aware of what is going on with the horses with which they are in contact. Horses in nature are “fight or flight” animals. They are prey and their survival instincts since prehistoric times have determined whether they will make it from one day to the next. This survival instinct is more highly developed in some horses than in others, but it is still there, and even the quietest, most gentle of animals can be overtaken by enough worry to make it run or fight. As the human part of the horse/human relationship, it is our responsibility not to do things that create enough worry in the horse to elicit such defensive reactions. It is also our duty to be able to put ourselves in the mind of the horse, i.e. “Horse Think” to elevate our sense of awareness to better understand what the horse is feeling and reacting to.



Recently I read a piece entitled “Awareness” on a website I follow at www.xenophonec.info. No matter what equine discipline one follows, nor whether one is in the saddle or handling the horse from the ground, being “aware” in the context of understanding the importance of communicating with the horse is something that is an essential building block to a successful relationship and partnership. Here is an excerpt from that article.

“There is a whole lot more to riding than just getting on your horse...and going. There is a depth of relationship that has drawn humans to the love of horses throughout the centuries, a mythic love that we celebrate in story and in art.

Horses are far more aware than humans. Horses are aware of their surroundings, their environment, their spatial relation to one another, their inner emotional state, their outer physical state, etc. Everything you do with the horse matters to him – therefore it should matter to you too. Every motion with your body, every time you notice (or fail to notice) his body language or gestures, you are sending and receiving a message. Just because you weren’t aware of “communicating” something, doesn’t mean that your horse wasn’t aware of “communication” from you.

What you say to your horse, and how you listen to your horse, is within your control. If you are aware that your actions, responses and reactions are always sending a message, you are on your way to becoming a better horseman. Awareness is a necessary skill when working with horses, and when we become more aware, we notice an increased willingness and ability to perform in the horses. When we become more aware of how our riding position (or our stance on the ground), influence, and reactions affect a horse’s balance and responses, the horse not only benefits, but a deeper rapport grows between horse and rider.

Awareness is the state or ability to perceive, to feel, or to be conscious of events, objects, or sensory patterns. In biological psychology, awareness is defined as a human’s or an animal’s perception and cognitive reaction to a condition or event.

May the dance improve with your level of awareness...”

“Empathy for the horse is the capacity of a person to be able to feel what the horse feels, to read a situation the same way, and to have an understanding of what the horse is going to do in response to that situation. That’s empathy, or feeling with the horse, and it’s a real effective way of learning from the horse. Even before the horse does whatever he’s about to do, a person who’s this way (empathetic) is going to understand the reason a horse does something. It takes time to get that deep knowledge of horses.” - Bill Dorrance

From the book 'True Horsemanship Through Feel' by Bill Dorrance and Leslie Desmond.

How does French Classical training differ from FEI or German dressage?

One of the greatest differences is that the rider does not drive the horse onto the bit with seat or legs. We train to create horses who are willing partners, understanding and enjoying their work, giving generously of their energy and talents.

The Four Main Tenets of French Classical Dressage:

1. Separation of the Aids - Hand without legs, legs without hands. We don't use the forward cue from the legs and the opposing restraining cues from the hands at the same time.
2. Release of the aids. The instant the horse responds the aid ceases thus keeping the horse willing and attentive.
3. Moderation of the aids. Leg aids are limited as to strength (very light) and rein aids are limited as to duration (very quick).
4. Optimization of orders. (Optimal Timing of the aids) The horse is prepared for the movement and then the movement is allowed to happen at the optimum moment for the horse to respond.

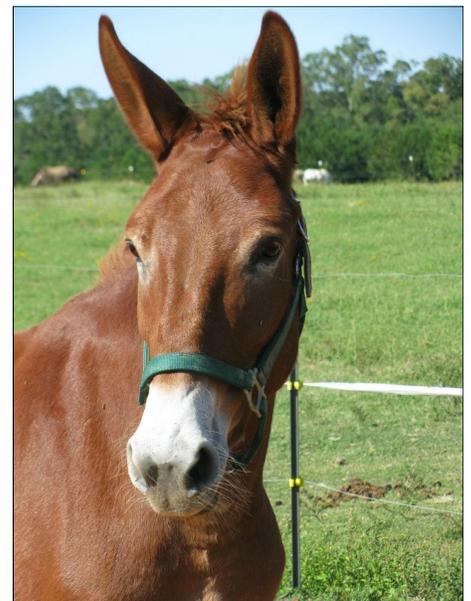
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SPONSORSHIP

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)*

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

GOODBYE OLD FRIENDS



RHETT

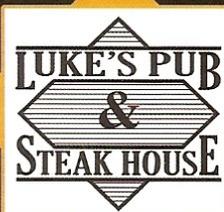
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Adopted This Quarter

Charlie
Juniper (pending)



Sponsored This Quarter

Savannah

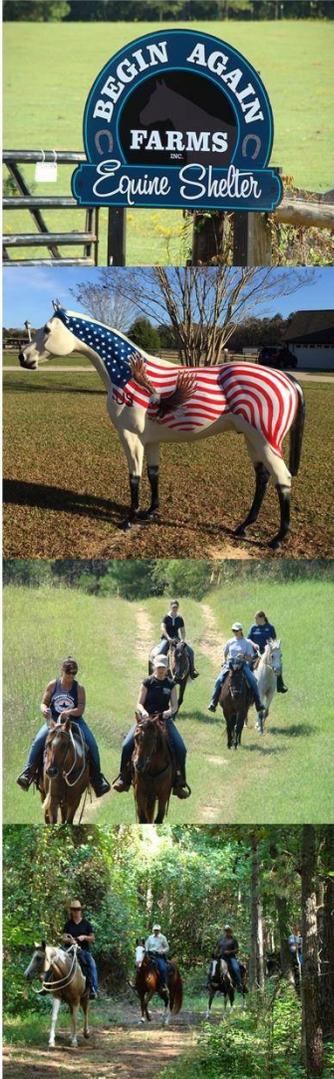
Fostered This Quarter

Ginger & Mack
Tirolungo

Adopters Send Their Pictures

Little Bucky





BEGIN AGAIN FARMS, INC. 8th Annual Memorial Ride

April 30, 2016, saturday 9:00am—4:00pm

Events

- ♦ Silent Auction
- ♦ Hay rides
- ♦ Raffle
- ♦ Drawings
- ♦ Obstacle Course
- ♦ No charge to non riders to enter property

About BAFI

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

RESCUE
REHABILITATE
REHOME
RETIRE

Fee & Requirements

Fee: \$30.00 to enter trails, lunch and t-shirt included. All proceeds benefit Begin Again Farms, Inc.

Proof of Negative Coggins is required for all equines entering property. Helmets require for riders under age 18.

Horses will not be provided or available to rent.
beginagainfarm@aol.com

Lunch

Lunch is included with fee. Extra plates and those who want to purchase lunch, the cost is \$6.00. Drink is included.

Location

Begin Again Farms
2035 Harris Rd.
Ellerslie, GA 31807

Contact:
Rhonda Jackson 706-315-6945
Deb Snead 706-570-0744

VOLUNTEERS AND OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

There will be a **PLANNING MEETING** this Saturday, Feb. 6, at the Farm in the tractor shed to discuss and set up committees for the Silent Auction, trail preparation, T-shirt sponsorships and the obstacle course (which we would like to expand and improve). If you have ideas and can't be there, please contact Rhonda.

FEATURED HORSE

Tirolungo is a handsome bay 17 hand off-the-track Thoroughbred gelding. Aside from his racing career, he has done flatwork, jumping and fox hunting. (We feel he will not hold up physically under the stress of fox hunting.) He needs an experienced rider. He has a very nice disposition.



TIROLUNGO

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 older pony. Has done barrels. Can be a bit of a Pistol. Not for the inexperienced rider.



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.

CHEECH—Chestnut Arabian gelding. Nice gelding. Has been ridden just a few times. Needs experience and training. Arabian racing stock

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.

HAPPY—Donkey

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. \

ADOPTION PENDING



Horses for Adoption *(continued from previous page)*

GINGER AND MACK—(Pictured right) - Darling miniature donkeys.

Mack is a bit shy, but they are very sweet. They MUST go together.



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 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.

MISTY—Sweet black small pony. She is easy to catch and lead. She's carried a small child on her back with a lead line.



Horses for Adoption *(continued from previous page)*

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.

PARIS—Palomino Quarter Horse Mare—Not broke to ride. Leads, loads.



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, neck reins, very nice mover. Stands for farrier. Easy keeper.

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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Horses for Adoption (continued from previous page)

PRINCESS—Pinto miniature horse mare. very shy little mare. not mean. not broke to ride. leads & loads.

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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Horses for Adoption *(continued from previous page)*

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

SIROCCO—(Pictured below 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.

SUMMER—(Pictured below left) Registered Paint Mare. Very sweet mare. Has done trails and jumping. Does not trailer well. registered paint..

TAHOE—Bay thoroughbred gelding. Nice off the track Thoroughbred gelding. Needs experienced rider. Wonderful ground manners. Has training.



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Horses for Adoption *(continued from previous page)*

TAZ—Small donkey

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.

VOYAGER—*(Pictured right)* Bay Morgan/ Mustang mare. Sweet little mare. Loves people. Has been ridden, needs experience and more training.



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Wish List

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