

Hoofprints of Love

**BEGIN AGAIN FARMS, INC. EQUINE SHELTER
AUGUST 2022**



VOLUNTEERING CAN SOOTHE YOUR SOUL

MARK YOUR CALENDERS!

ANNUAL RESCUE RIDE—SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

ANNUAL TACK SALE—NOVEMBER 12

Max's Corner: An Eye on the Farm

Hay again! It's Max! I've trotted over to talk to you about what's happened and what's going to happen. Lots to neigh about these things.

The Mane Event forthcoming is our annual **Rescue Ride on Sunday, October 30**. We had so much fun with our **Costume Classes**, we've decided to do another Halloween special. Classes will be divided by age groups, and prizes will be awarded. Plus the winners will be featured in our next newsletter. Start thinking about what costumes you and your horse will want to show off! (See flyer page 5)



MAX—BAFI'S SPOKESHORSE

Raffle tickets will be on sale starting September 1. Once again we will have a **50/50 raffle** (winner gets half the raffle proceeds, Begin Again Farms keeps the other half. Tickets are only \$1 each. You might get hundreds of dollars if you have the winning ticket. Our other mane raffle item is a gorgeous **horse quilt** (picture and details on page 4) donated to our Farm. Tickets are \$5 each. You do not have to be present to win either raffle as long as you put your phone number on the back of the raffle tickets.

Would you like to help our Rescue Ride, our biggest fund-raiser for the year? You've seen our big banners up by our front gate, and our t-shirts, and we'll have a booth for promotional items. Consider a **sponsorship** from your business, your club, your friends' businesses, or just yourself. See the different sponsorship categories on page 14.

Please don't forget our annual **Tack Sale** which will be **November 12**, right here at the Farm. Need a new saddle, bridle, saddle blanket, winter blanket? This will be the place to come. We'll have lots of tables with crafts and other goodies, too. Or maybe you would like to sell yours? Contact Rhonda at 705-315-6945 if you want to buy a table.

(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 Column (continued from previous page)

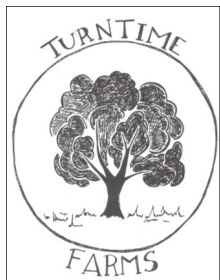
Folks really kicked up their heels at our **Adoption Day** in June, in conjunction with Humane Society of Harris County. Kittens, puppies, dogs and horses were all available for adoption or fostering or sponsorship. Kids got their faces painted, and could paint horses. Honey and other items were for sale, and lots and lots of good food to eat. (Pictures page 9 and 10).

Volunteerism was encouraged. Begin Again Farms could not exist without volunteers. And volunteers have the most fun. Can't afford a horse? Get your "horse fix" here. You can get that "easy, peaceful feeling" with working with the horses that you cannot get anywhere else. Read all about our volunteer opportunities on page 15. The kids are in school and you need a change of pace? Or you and the kids want a fun activity you can do together? Begin Again is where you can make those things happen. And when the work is done, it is lots of fun just to hang out with the other farm animals enjoying the peace and quiet.



Be sure to catch "**On The Trail**" page 6. Sometimes we forget the very basics of horsemanship if we have riding at the forefront of our mind. This article takes us back to "being in the moment" and that the human-horse relationship in every aspect is important, not just the time in the saddle.

Rhonda has been spending hours updating the Begin Again Farms' **website**. It is up and running, and looking great. The horses are still in the process of being updated, but it is coming along nicely. Once the website is finished, getting us back on Petfinder.com will be the next project. Be sure to hoof it on over and take a look. www.beginagainfarms.com



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WIN THIS BEAUTIFUL QUILT



This beautiful horse quilt, 73" x 74", made by Debbie Roush, will be one of our auction items at the upcoming Rescue Ride.

Tickets for this raffle (\$5), and for the 50/50 raffle (\$1), will be available starting September 1. Contact any volunteer, or use the Venmo or Paypal.

If you are using Venmo or Paypal, you will need to let us know how many tickets of each kind (quilt or 50/50) and send us address and phone number. We will send you your half of the ticket. We'll fill out the other half and put it in the jar.

You do not need to be present to win, but if you cannot come pick it up, you will need to pay the shipping.



Rhonda Jackson
@Rhonda-Jackson-1...



venmo

Scan this code to pay

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

15TH ANNUAL RESCUE RIDE

WHEN: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2022 9AM-4PM

**WHERE: 2035 HARRIS ROAD
ELLERSLIE, GA 31807**

COST: \$40 FOR RIDERS

**INCLUDES: TRAILS, OBSTACLE COURSE,
RAFFLES, T-SHIRT, AND LUNCH
(LUNCH FOR NON-RIDERS \$10)**

**Halloween Event featuring
a Horse and Rider Costume
Contest with PRIZES!**

**Contest Categories: Adult and
Youth (16 and Under)**

Negative Coggins Required

No Rental Horses Available

Contest Entrants Must Bring Their Own Horses



**FOR MORE INFO:
RHONDA JACKSON
(706) 315-6945**



ON THE TRAIL

By Alice Stagg

This issue's topic comes from the archives of a great blog called Horse Listening.



Speaking “Horse” (a.k.a. “Pushing the Envelope”)

You've seen it before (maybe you've been there yourself?) - the horse/human tug-of-war scenario:

- 1) The person is trying desperately to keep the horse in a particular position, or
- 2) The person is leading the horse somewhere, and all the while, the horse is moving, imposing and once in a while, running over the doting human being.

Once you know how to listen to your horse, whole world of communication can open up for you. You will know how to interpret what the horse is saying - to the other horses, to you, and to the 'world'. Horses send messages out as much as humans do. It's just that we do it verbally (just think of what a gathering of people sounds like and you'll know what I mean).

Horses, on the other hand, do very little verbally. Most of their communication lies in the non-verbal realm; you need to learn to 'listen' in a different sense, by carefully observing their body movements. Pretty much EVERY movement has a meaning and is 'sent out' with deliberate intention. The talent on your part is to interpret the body language accurately.

Point in fact - the horse's social structure works on a basic hierarchical system. Lower-level horses always defer to the herd leader. In other words, if the herd leader moves into the direction of another horse, the lower horse is expected to move away - from the hay, from another horse friend, or simply from the herd leader himself. Neglecting to move away often results in a more aggressive movement from the herd leader - including the possibility of a swift kick in the lower-level horse's direction!

This submission has developed over the millennia for good reason - the herd leader HAD to be the one who moved the herd around. In nature, without a good leader to tell the others what to do and where to go, the herd's safety would be at risk.

How does this involve you, the human? Your actions will dictate your current and future relationship with that horse. Here is a possible scenario: while you are leading the horse beside you, the horse steps into your direction, almost walking on top of you. Your possible responses:

- you think it's cute that the horse wants to snuggle up to you, and you step back as the horse walks into you
- you see the horse coming in your direction and you push the horse on his shoulder so he doesn't continue coming into your space

Continued on following page)

ON THE TRAIL *(continued from previous page)*

Each reaction on your part gives the horse a different message. The first reaction - stepping away - will tell the horse that he is the herd leader between the two of you, and that he should be the one to make decisions. Many times, this 'herd dynamic' works just fine for your interactions, because chances are that your horse is kind and generous and usually will not be inclined toward stepping on you or dragging the lead rope out of your hand.

But unfortunately, the one time that he feels he must impose his authority on you (if he feels threatened by an unfamiliar object), you will not have a say in his decision-making. As the lower ranked member of your herd, you must obey - meaning, you'd better get out of his way as he tramples you to get away from the fear object! If instead, you choose to not move away and push him back out of your space the moment you notice him stepping toward you, you impart a very different message. In this case, you are telling him that you are the herd leader, and he needs to respect your personal space.

This is the preferable role for you as human, since you are likely more than six times smaller and lighter and at risk of being easily injured based on just the size difference itself.

As you learn to listen to your horse, you will realize that there is constant communication going back and forth between the two of you (whether you know it or not). So instead of assuming the subservient role, pay closer attention and work on asking your horse the questions. If you move into his space, will he move away from you? If you need him to stop moving his feet, will he stand still?

Make a habit of routinely asking him questions. If he answers "yes" to your questions, you can be thankful and reward him with a pat and a "good boy" vocal response, but your job is not quite complete. Just getting an affirmative is not enough - as soon as your horse gives you the 'yes', you need to ask him the next level of question.

Maybe it could be something like: "Will you stand still and not dive for the grass while I lead you in the field with the yummiest grass?" The next level might be, "Will you walk nicely and not prance around while I lead you away from the barn and your herd members?"

Each time you get the 'yes', think of something that could be the next step. Pushing the envelope is one step in developing a trusting, confident relationship with your horse.

What are some questions you ask of your horse?



Available for sponsorship, adoption, foster:

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Sara

Matilda,

Burrito

Gypsy

Jenny

Malady

King Tutt

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Gypsy II

Bo

Dreamer

Chantilly (pictured right)

Princess

Scout

Paris

Tim

Wendy

Terramon

Luna

Arrowlena

Ben

Bingo

Reba

Chiquita

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Pine Mountain, GA

706-663-2128

Wish List

Horse Supplies:

Feed: Senior Feed
Tasty 10
Shredded Beet Pulp
Probiotics
Buteless Pellets
Mineral Blocks
Shavings or Pellets for Stalls
Wormer
Fly Spray

Tack:

Any new or used saddles &
miscellaneous tack
Horse Blankets

Event Needs:

Awnings (Free Standing)
Picnic Tables or Banquet Tables
Table Umbrellas

Tools and Equipment:

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

Volunteer Help:

Plumber for minor repairs
Electrician for minor repairs
Mechanic for maintenance & minor repair
Carpenter for repairs
A.m. or p.m. feeding one or more days per
week
Drag pastures weekly
Misc. maintenance of property and fences
Knowledgeable horse people who want to get
their horse fix brushing horses and
giving them attention

The mission of Begin Again Farms, In. 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. 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!”

August 01, 2022

Dear Sir/Ms:

Begin Again Farms, Inc. Equine Shelter's 15th Annual Rescue Ride is coming up on Sunday, October 30, 2022. We would like to offer your business the opportunity to sponsor our 2022 Rescue 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 27 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 14th 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 6'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 yours,

Rhonda Jackson,
President
Begin Again Farms, Inc. Equine Shelter

VOLUNTEERING AT BAFI is a wonderful family event. We rely on our incredible volunteers to provide the best care for our rescue horses!

Volunteer Opportunities

- **Farm Volunteer (Daily Chores):** Farm volunteers will be given tasks appropriate for their experience level, and will be provided orientation training to help them grow in their equine knowledge and skills. These tasks include: feeding, grooming, and managing the day-to-day needs of our horses, (*Feed volunteers must be able to drive unless supervised by a parent/guardian*)
- **Farm Operations Volunteer:** BAFI needs volunteers with skills in farm maintenance, machinery, or handiwork. These include skills such as mowing/landscaping, equipment repairs, building/construction, or other general maintenance/repairs.
- **Non-Horse Volunteer Opportunities:**
 - **Event Volunteers:** BAFI hosts several events each year, and we need volunteers to help with event planning, setup, take down, greeting, managing event attractions (raffle, volunteer sign-up, etc.) , serving food, among other event preparations.
 - **Administrative Volunteers:** If you have skills in marketing, social media content creation, fundraising, or public/community relations, we need your skills!! We need help maintaining our website, marketing events, and other administrative assistance such as coordination with event sponsors, potential new volunteers, equine sponsors, or equine adopters.

Begin Again Farms, Inc.
Equine Shelter
PO Box 242
Hamilton, GA 31811



BEGIN AGAIN FARMS, INC.
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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!**

