

Hoofprints of Love

BEGIN AGAIN FARMS, INC. EQUINE SHELTER

November 2017



BINGO AND LADY LOOKING FOR FOREVER HOMES

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.

Max's Corner: An Eye on the Farm



Hay there! Glad to see you back.

Yup, that picture was me. **Hurricane Irma** was coming, and my people put me in the garage for safety (not as easy as you might think it would be, since I can only stand, not walk). I would never have stayed on my hooves with that mighty wind that blew through. But you can see I had a window, and kept my eye on the Farm. All of the horses and volunteers

made it through the storm unscathed. Surprisingly, we didn't have a whole lot of damage with the hurricane. Part of a run-in shed that came down, but it has been rehabbed and working just fine. And I'm now back on the corner where I belong. We didn't take in any horses from Florida, but were able to refer folks to the places that were taking horses, and later we were able to refer people in the California wildfires to places nearby that were accepting horses. Some of our volunteers took in people and their animals who were worried that they would not survive the storm at home.

About our **cover photo** (photo by Gail Gallahan Trumble): Bingo (chestnut gelding) and Lady (dark bay mare with striking white markings) are young Quarter Horses, ready to begin some serious training with the right new person(s). Both have lots of potential and will be fun to work with. Actually, I am surprised that they haven't been adopted yet!



Once again, we have had roosters miraculously appear in the barnyard, barred rock and white ones. They are not yet as tame as Wilson and Woodrow were, but Jill is working on it.

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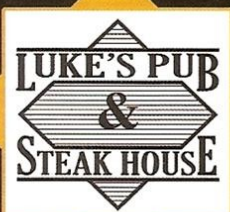
Hoofprints of Love is the newsletter of Begin Again Farms, Inc., a 501c-3 equine rescue in Ellerslie, GA.

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

reusmannl@bellsouth.net

Max's Corner (continued from previous page)

Lots has happened since I last wrote, er, dictated. For one thing, we had a terrific **Rescue Ride** with lots of happy riders on the trails, obstacle course, mule-drawn hay rides, raffles, T-shirt sales. Thank you to all the volunteers, riders and donors that made this a success! Please see pages 5 and 6 for more about the Ride. The Farm is always busy, with two daily feedings, barn cleaning, shots and worming. There was hay to be put up. Volunteers worked very hard to clean tack, etc. for the annual **Tack and Garage Sale** at the Ellerslie Depot, but the morning turned out very cold, so we didn't have as many people as usual. That means we had to bring home a lot of tack, so if you are in need of any saddles (any discipline), bridles, halters, saddle blankets, bits, or miscellaneous items, please contact Rhonda at 706-315-6945.

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Max's Corner (continued from previous page)



Alice Stagg has donated a new floating duck house for our pond. This will be a safe place for the Pekin and Mallard-cross ducks to sit on their eggs and raise their young out of the way of the Canada geese.

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2017 RESCUE RIDE

(Photos by Katelyn Kearns)



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2017 RESCUE RIDE



On the Trail...

By Alice Stagg

The following is an article from Heart of Phoenix Equine Rescue by T. Creamer:

Hands, Bums and Legs on Horseback

Once during a lesson, someone said, “Go stand and hold the bit in your hands”. So I did. They used the reins attached to show how some people use them versus how they should be used.

I was never the same in the saddle again. I shouldn't have been, either. Until you're on the end of that bit, you likely do not realize the magnitude of your movements. The impact. The harm that can be done with unskilled hands is immeasurable.

I've heard learned people talk about what it is like watching people who really do not care in the saddle, and it isn't from a position of snobbery, but from sadness toward what the horses go through.

The horse is the best judge of a good rider, not the spectator. If the horse has a high opinion of the rider, he will let himself, be guided, if not, he will resist. - Nuno Oliveira

Hold the bit one day and have folks jerk on the reins. It changes everything.

That isn't all, though. Have you carried a kicking, jerking toddler before through a store? Does it make carrying the child harder? Does it end up fairly painful? Compare it to a child set on being connected to his mama happily on the hip. Well, heck, you can do about anything with that child well seated on your side, can't you?

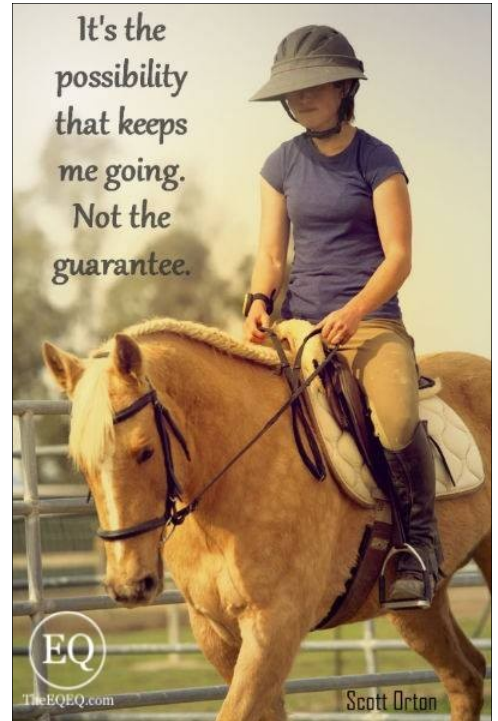
How difficult must it be for a horse to carry the unbalanced rider? When a rider is looking all around, tense or flopping about, nearly going over one side and the next, this must prove a hardship to the horse. How can he even know what you're asking? Do you even know what you're asking?

What about those legs? Are they hanging there like dead tree limbs? Are they grasping in a death hold on the side of the horse? Kicking around like wild? What are they doing?

I remember hearing from, I believe, Ray Hunt, “The horse can feel a fly land on him, so to think that we have to inflict a great deal of discomfort on them to convey our message is wrong” and frankly, as I think maybe Buck Brannaman added, they can feel that fly in a hurricane, too.

Consider that when you're sitting on the back of a horse, moving a bit in the mouth of a horse, asking your horse for anything, actually.

Anytime you are with a horse, no matter if you are a daily rider or one who just gets a chance to ride to the mailbox, you are interacting with your horse. It is all about the quality of the connection, not the quantity. Doing something right once in a while will far surpass anything done wrong more often.—Buck Brannaman



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Equine 911 - The Basics by Farnam Horse

Your horse isn't acting normal or sometime during the night he managed to gouge himself in the leg, or he's developed a sudden limp. These are typical situations that cause even experienced horse owners and riders concern. Although the lists below may not include everything that you would need to know, have or respond to, it covers many of the major types of emergencies that sometimes occur with horses.

If your horse is experiencing any of the following conditions or symptoms, he needs help fast:

Heavy bleeding	Acute lameness
Choking	Difficulty breathing
Fracture	Any injury to or inflammation of the eye
Seizure	Severe diarrhea
Deep cuts	Colic

Keep a first aid kit in your tack room or trailer, be sure to check it at least once a year and to restock after any use.

For colic or any other equine health emergency, you'll have a head start on getting your horse back on track if you can give the veterinarian information about your horse's vital signs when you call. Be sure to ask your vet what the normal range of vitals are for your horse during a routine visit so that you have a baseline to use in the case of an emergency. Typical vitals for horses are:

Temperature (99-101 for an adult horse)

Heart rate (28-44 beats per minute)


Respiratory rate (10-24 breaths per minute)

Appearance of the gums (normal is moist and pink, with good circulation). Press on the gum with a finger and see how long it takes to return to pink. This should be only about 2 seconds.

Listen to both sides of his gut by putting your head against each flank. You should hear gurgling sounds, similar to a growling stomach, on both sides.

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Saddle Up Tack and Feed



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Owner

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Equine 911 *(continued from previous page)*

Keep a first aid kit handy in your tack room or trailer, and be sure to check it at least once a year and to restock after any use. The basic kit should include items such as:

Thermometer	Saline Wash
Stethoscope	Rubber Gloves
Antiseptic Wash	Hoof Pick & Knife
Self-Adhesive Bandages	Vetwrap
Scissors	Duct Tape
Absorbent Padding	Flashlight
Antibiotic Cream	Clippers

This list is just a beginning. Ask your veterinarian for other additional items that might be helpful for your particular horse. Make sure to post important numbers, such as your veterinarian's, in handy places as well. Keep everything together in a waterproof case, and hope that you will never have to need it.

ADOPTED THIS QUARTER:

Tizzy, Voyager, Magic, Lucy



ADOPTION AND SPONSORSHIP

Want your forever best friend? Or do you not have the time and space?

For those wishing to adopt, we have young horses with some training, and older horses for less experienced riders. We also have some pasture buddies. These horses are listed at www.petfinder.com, or you can access them on our webpage www.beginagainfarms.com

Horses too old or with other issues are often not available for adoption. We give these horses the best retirement they can ask for. When sponsoring a horse, you can spend as much or as little time with him as you wish. Think you can't afford to sponsor a horse? Consider a partial sponsorship, or a sponsorship of a pony or mini (less expensive as they eat less).

Corporate sponsorships are also available. Perhaps your company would like to take on a horse in need. This is a wonderful investment for businesses that like to work with the community.

For more information on adoption or sponsorship, please talk to Rhonda at 706-315-6945.

Here are some of our horses that need sponsorship:

KING TUTT—Tutt is back and seeking a sponsorship for his senior years. Tutt is a darling palomino gelding, well-mannered. He has some on-and-off lameness issues.



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

GINGER—Ginger is a lovely chestnut mare, full of energy in pep. She is in her 20s, and has some back or hip issues. She is a bit too much “in your face” and needs some work on being respectful, but she likes people, and she would make a good project for someone experienced with horses.

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SPONSORSHIP *(continued from previous page)*

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

LENA—Beautiful bay Quarter Horse/Paint with lots of color. Not very trusting. Has COPD.

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

MONTY—This handsome boy is a barrel racer retired after an injury. *(Pictured below)*



PEANUT—Anyone who has spent time at the Farm knows Peanut the million dollar pony. He is our primary Education animal, and goes out to schools, parades and other functions, gives children their first riding experience.

PRINCESS— Pinto miniature horse mare. She is a very sweet but somewhat shy little mare. Loves to be groomed. Not broke to ride. Leads well.

SAVANNAH—She is like some of our volunteers in that she is getting older, but refuses to believe it. She is an intelligent white mare

WILDFIRE—Gentle chestnut mare, blind in one eye (it had to be removed). Has ulcers, but under control since removed from stressful situation. Prefers ponies and/or minis as her pasture mates.

Wish List

Help:

Electrician to do minor repair work

Horse Supplies:

Tucker Feed 12%
Tucker Feed Eqceed
Beet Pulp
Mineral Blocks
Shavings or Pellets for Stalls
Wormer
Fly Spray
Fly Spray for Piranha Spray Master

Tack:

Any new or used saddles &
miscellaneous tack
Horse Blankets
Easy entry miniature horse cart

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

Event Needs:

Awnings (Free Standing)
Picnic Tables or Banquet Tables

Also:

Large Flatbed Trailer, minimum of 24 feet,
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