

## Forever Morgans Newsletter, January 2014

Forever Morgans had very busy end to 2013 and is gearing up for a productive 2014! The Board has set several goals to make FM more effective and improve outreach, stability and involvement. FM's primary mission is rescuing Morgans, but that's not all we do. "The Little Rescue That Can" has become a recognized 501(c)3 non-profit, made up entirely of volunteers, with horses and people across the country saving the breed that we love.

### New rescue:

FM only took in one horse in December, UDM Sable (2001 black mare). Her breeder was unable to take her but did help pay her bail and has been very supportive of FM's efforts to place her. There has been significant interest in Sable but no adoption applications for her yet. She is a gorgeous and sweet mare, trained to ride and drive.

We contacted her most recent owners, an Amish family, and got some great information. Mrs. Stolfus said that they had Sable for eight years and always enjoyed her lovely trot and her sweetness. Sable was in foal when they bought her in the fall of '05 and they still have her colt. She was a wonderful mother. Sable was used as a buggy horse and also ridden at home. Mrs. Stolfus had wondered why the mare had been passed around from auction to auction on almost a yearly basis before they bought her, as they really liked her and never had problems with her. Sable is sweet with no temperament issues and she has a lot of go, which the family always enjoyed. Especially their daughter, now eighteen, formed a close bond with the mare and Sable became her pet. Sable began to have problems with the ligament of a hindleg, Mrs. Stolfus thinks it was the left one, about one and a half years ago. The vet came out and gave them a rather negative prognosis on it, saying she wasn't able to be used as a buggy horse anymore. So Sable spent the last one and a half years on pasture, occasionally being ridden, but allowed to have time off. Times being what they are, the family had to finally put economic considerations first and one of the grown sons took Sable to New Holland. She was very relieved that Sable will have a good home and would like to stay in touch.

### Available horses:

*Information on all available horses is on the FM website,  
[http://forevermorgans.org/Adoptable\\_Horses.html](http://forevermorgans.org/Adoptable_Horses.html).*

### Horses currently boarded:

FM currently has 9 horses boarded at the quarantine barn in Pennsylvania (Cindy K's).

1. Noble Rose (PMM Jesters Noble Rose, 1991 dark bay mare, rescued 12/3/12) is very slowly overcoming past abuse and learning to trust people. She can now be caught, handled, and blanketed, but is still very defensive of her food. Considering that her teeth are nearly worn down from prior starvation, that's not surprising! She has been boarded at Cindy's for over a year, at a cost of nearly \$4000, and must be moved soon.

2. LV Blaze (Locust Valley Blaze, 1995 chestnut gelding, rescued 1/22/13) still has lameness and some swelling in his fetlock. Previous vet examine of LV Blaze felt it was soft tissue damage but it is not improving as expected, so he is scheduled to have it x-rayed soon. He also needs a new Coggins.
3. JRC Blaze (JRC Blaze of Glory, 2003 chestnut gelding, rescued 2/17/13) has beautiful manners and is just a lovely boy. His feet are improving, and he is expected to be suitable for riding/driving with continued knowledgeable trimming/farrier work.
4. Showy (Showy Lady's Slipper , 2002 liver chestnut mare, rescued 8/17/13) is pregnant and expected to foal in May.
5. Reflection (Rose Valley Reflection, 1995 chestnut mare, rescued 10/7/13) is doing well. She had some edema on her belly from having multiple pregnancies, but it is slowly going down. She enjoys being out in the pasture, just being "one of the girls."
6. Magnum (Rosedust FourtyFour Magnum, 2000 bay gelding, rescued 10/12/13) had blood drawn to check his testosterone levels because of studdish behavior (i.e. chases other horses in the pasture and tries to mount mares). His testosterone levels were normal for a gelding, so it is "just his little perverted mind :)". He is easy to handle and loves attention, he just cannot be pastured with mares at Cindy's.
7. Alusive (WYP Alusive, 1995 chestnut gelding, rescued 10/19/13) had his fetlock/leg rechecked as there is still some swelling. He was given a steroid shot given a course of bute. The vet feels it is an from an old injury that never properly healed.
8. Thumbelina (Blossoms Thumbelina, 1992 bay mare, rescued 10/19/13) has great manners, is very trustworthy and easy to handle, and is said to be great with kids. She is an alpha mare so is not able to be turned out with other horses at Cindy's.
9. Johnny (JMF Johnny Who , 1995 black stallion, rescued 10/28/13) has exemplary manners and everyone who meets him falls in love. He was a perfect gentleman for the farrier. He had blood drawn to check his testosterone levels because he is very mellow for a stallion, and to help determine if he should be gelded. His testosterone level (843) is on the very low end of normal for a stud -- 500-2,000 is normal – but he is healthy.

Horses pending transport to foster (currently boarded):

1. Sailor (Hackney-Morgan cross colt, born 4/15/13 to Song) was scheduled to go to his foster home in Tennessee in December, but the trip had to be delayed when he had a respiratory illness. The delay did let him receive his first round of vaccinations before traveling, and he is now scheduled to ship south before the end of January.
2. Steppin (Steppin to the Sky, 1998 chestnut mare) had a vet check and health certificate on 1/10/14 and is pending transport to a foster home in New York.
3. Sable (UDM Sable, 2001 black mare) also had a vet check and health certificate on 1/10/14. She had her teeth floated as she was having trouble chewing and foaming and has confirmed to not be in foal. She is pending transport to a foster in Massachusetts.

Horses transported to foster in the past month:

*Note: All horses had a health certificate and vet check prior to transport.*

1. Dorothy (Starlit Acres Dorothy, 2000 bay mare) is now fostered in Pennsylvania. Her foster home has fallen in love with her.
2. Song (Shipyard Pt Vibrant Song, 2001 bay mare) to Texas, where she is relaxing and enjoying lots of attention from the students at her foster's barn.
3. Jax (Jax Suite Victory, 1997 chestnut gelding) went to Oklahoma. He had a farrier trim before his trip. He is doing well and becoming friends with both the horse and a pet cow at his foster home.
4. Wynnie (RKT Nordic Wynnning Lady, 2004 bay mare) went to Colorado. The exchange student at her foster home is very excited to work with this gorgeous mare.
5. Black Lady (Intrigue's Black Lady, 2005 black mare) arrived safely in Kansas and is settling in well.

Horses in foster homes:

1. There are currently 13 horses in foster homes: Valor (WA), Mitsey and Delilah (IL), Reva (NY), Joy (NC), Lacy (OR), Maggie Mae and Avalon (MA), Opal and Dusty (TN), Chester (DE), Cora (CA), Edison (ID). (*Horses in the same state may be in separate foster homes.*)
2. Valor (Dia H Valor, 2000 chestnut gelding), fostered in Washington state, has been started under saddle and is doing very well! He shows signs of being gaited.
3. Avalon (2012 grade bay filly), fostered in Massachusetts, is growing up very nicely. She is eager to please, fearless, and has a sense of humor.

Pending adoptions:

1. Twice a Lady (FMRrescue Twice a Lady, 2013 filly out of Showy Lady's Slipper) has started being weaned in preparation for a pending adoption.
2. Lyla (2011 black filly) has an adoption pending.

Adoptions:

1. Peaches (TL Peaches N Kreme), who was rescued by her breeder with help from FM, completed her quarantine and was home in time for Christmas!
2. Jasmine (2010 grade bay mare) was adopted! She traveled well and seems to be very pleased with her new home, and her adopter is thrilled with this sweetheart mare.

### AMHA Convention

FM will be at the upcoming AMHA convention in Raleigh, NC, February 20-22! Vice President Chris Pennington will be representing FM. FM will have a booth in the exhibitors' hall with information and FM merchandise (shirts, hats, etc.). If you're going to be attending, please come say 'hi' to Chris, or even volunteer to help at the booth for an hour or two!

### Amish Contacts

FM has been working to develop relationships with the Amish so that we can intercept horses before they go to auction and are bought by kill buyers and brokers. Our hard work is paying off!

We were recently contacted about a 2003 bay gelding who would be taken to auction in mid-January. He is reported to be friendly, very sweet, well-trained to drive and ride. We have made arrangements to purchase the gelding and will share info, photos and additional information once we have him.

### Possible Intakes

FM has been in contact with a family in Illinois about rehoming three registered Morgans. An FM representative will be visiting the horses in January to evaluate and photograph the horses and help make sure they go to safe homes.

### Jessica Fund Results

The Jessica Fund was established to save a horse in honor of 6-year old Jessica Rekos, who was killed at the tragic shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Connecticut in December 2012. The funds raised were used to save not just one horse, but three: the mare Showy Lady's Slipper, her 2013 filly FMRescue Twice a Lady, and Showy's 2014 foal (Showy was pregnant when rescued).

### Committee Reports

Committees have not been very active lately. FM has a lot of work to be done and needs your help!

Applicant Review: Pat Porter, Chair - Received and processed two applications to adopt. Currently processing one application.

501(c)3 Committee Report : Ginny Bloss, Chair - Nothing to report

Auction Committee : Ann Coe, Chair - Nothing to report. A representative from FM will be attending the Mid-A show and sale later in January.

New Fosters/Prospective Adopters : Janice Scotto, Chair - Nothing to report

Fundraising : Ginny Bloss, Chair –

- FM now has the ability to do automatic monthly donations using paypal using the link at <http://forevermorgans.org/Donate.html> . Even just a few dollars a month really helps, and with automatic payments you don't have to think about it.
- Several Christmas Care Certificates were purchased.
- FM received a check for \$172 from items sold in Forever Morgans' store on zazzle for 2013. (<http://www.zazzle.com/forevermorgans+gifts> )
- ForeverMorgans is a registered charity on smile.amazon.com and igive.com, and receives a percentage from purchases made through those sites.

- Several blankets were donated to the horses boarded at Cindy's. The horses appreciate the warmth!

Rescue Me/Camelot : Christina Friedian, Chair - Nothing to report

Therapeutic Riding Programs : Heather Rodriguez, Chair - Nothing to report

Transport : Jami Sacks, Chair - Jami has been busy arranging transports for horses going to foster.

Transportation Fund: Martha Cather, Chair – Martha started the Transportation Fund committee to raise funds to get horses to their foster homes.

Foster Follow Up Committee : Danny Collins, Chair - Danny requested updates from current fosters, but did not receive reports from all of them. Updates received were sent to the website.

Breeders/Owners Prior Record Call Back Committee : Danny Collins, Chair - Danny talked to Sable's prior owners. She also received calls from former owners of previous FM rescues with information and contacts for getting horses in need directly from their Amish owners prior to them going to auction.

Publicity Committee: The Publicity Committee needs a new chair and members! The Board has heard from several people who are interested in helping and is currently deciding on a chair.

#### Adoptee Update

FM received several nice emails from adopters, along with many photos of happy horses wearing Santa hats and enjoying holiday goodies. Apparently there were some very good horses this year!

This email is from Bodie's adopter:

*I just wanted to drop you folks a line and let you know that Warrior's Bow (formerly BODIE) is doing great here in Southern Virginia. He is such a love bug! He definitely doesn't want to be ridden so before the cold weather set in I put part of an old harness I have on him just to see how he would react. I wasn't going to push him back into any bad old memories so took it very slowly watching for any reactions that he was not all for it. He stood patiently and we walked him around. Then we took him out onto the driveway and with friends helping we set him up as if he was going to be hitched. He backed right up and was all ready to go. We didn't hitch him but it appears he was wanting to go for a "ride". So we may start working him into being a cart horse again, but very, very slowly and likely for only short jaunts so he doesn't think he is transportation again. In the meantime, he has my Welsh Cob for a buddy and loves being out with the other horses. He still will come up and wants to be hugged and scratched and seems to be enjoying his semi-laid back-retirement. I need to get a camera to get some photos of him. He looks like a bit of a tank right now but he is definitely healthy and happy. Perhaps once the weather breaks we will look at adopting another Morgan that I or my husband can ride. Thank you again for all that you folks do!*