

Forever Morgans Newsletter, March 2014

New rescue:

FM took in two geldings in March.

Michelangelo (1999 bay gelding) was first rescued by a Hackney trainer in December 2012. She got him out of a neglectful home and spent a year getting him healthy, then asked FM for help finding him a forever home. He was in southern Washington, so Board member Deb Jondahl agreed to foster him. Mick is a darling boy, beginner-safe, cute and friendly, and generally wonderful. He is such an awesome horse that he had an adoption application for him within a matter of days -- before we even got his photo on the FM website! Mick's adoption is now pending for a home that is very excited about bringing him home and riding on the beach this summer.

Stowaway (2008 chestnut gelding) was at the New Holland auction, where a Forever Morgans representative outbid a kill buyer for him. A note with him at the auction said that he was green broke to ride and "likes people but has a lot of fire". Once he was safe in quarantine, we found out more information on him. Stowaway is from an illicit "teenage romance" when his sire, Benediction, jumped out a barn window to visit nearby mares. One of these was sold to an Amish man who was surprised when she had a "stowaway". Stowaway was green broke to ride and sold at auction in Ohio in early 2014, where he was purchased by a broker. A cut on Stowaway's leg that was recent at the Ohio auction was left untreated and became infected; the broker refused to let another rescue help to sell him because the cut looked bad. Instead, he took Stowaway directly to New Holland so he would be bought by a kill buyer. Thankfully, FM got him instead! His leg has been treated and is healing nicely.

Available horses:

Information on all available horses is on the FM website, <http://www.forevermorgans.org/horses.htm> . Most horses now have downloadable pdfs with additional information that can be printed and shared. Please consider posting flyers about horses near you on local bulletin boards, feed stores, shows, etc.

Horses currently boarded:

FM currently has 4 horses boarded at the quarantine barn in Pennsylvania (Cindy K-N's).

1. Noble Rose (PMM Jestures Noble Rose, 1991 dark bay mare, rescued 12/3/12) had a break-through in mid-March. Since being rescued over a year ago, she has been unfriendly, even aggressive, and could barely be touched. The farrier was at the barn taking care of other horses and decided to work with her. She stood calmly and let him trim her hooves, was happy to be scratched, and even sought out affection! Now she needs a forever home that can help her bloom.
2. LV Blaze (Locust Valley Blaze, 1995 chestnut gelding, rescued 1/22/13) continues to have intermittent lameness, mostly when the weather is cold. He does well with men and would do best with a male foster or adopter. The vet has recommended that he not be ridden.

3. Reflection (Rose Valley Reflection, 1995 chestnut mare, rescued 10/7/13) is quiet, unassuming, easy to handle, and very mellow. If you have room in your pasture for a sweet mare, please consider fostering or adopting Reflection!

4. Alusive (WYP Alusive, 1995 chestnut gelding, rescued 10/19/13) is receiving daily pain meds for severely damaged tendons/ligaments in his ankles. FM is currently waiting on a more detailed vet report and prognosis. If he cannot live without pain, we will have to consider euthanizing him.

Horses transported to foster:

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

1, 2. Magnum (Rosedust FourtyFour Magnum, 2000 bay gelding, rescued 10/12/13) and JRC Blaze (JRC Blaze of Glory, 2003 chestnut gelding, rescued 2/17/13) went to a foster home in Florida together. Both boys are doing very well.

3, 4, 5. Thumbelina (Blossoms Thumbelina, 1992 bay mare, rescued 10/19/13), GG (Hollybrook Golden Girl, 2003 chestnut mare, rescued 1/20/14) and Dorothy (Starlit Acres Dorothy, 2000 bay mare) went to a foster home in Illinois. Within days of arriving, Dorothy had an adoption pending to be a companion to a blind mare – a perfect pasture pet home for this easy-going, gentle girl! Thumbelina has mellowed considerably with fewer horses around, and GG is also relaxing.

6. Glory (MLF Sudden Glory, 1999 chestnut gelding) was returned from his adopter and went to a new foster home, also in New York. His adopter absolutely loved him, but he was just 'too much horse'. Glory is cute and friendly but needs a confident rider who likes to go.

7. Showy (Showy Lady's Slipper, 2002 liver chestnut mare, rescued 8/17/13) went to foster in New York in time to get used to new surroundings before her foal is due in May. She is developing quite the baby belly!

8. Sam (SAMAC's The Shake, 2003 bay gelding, rescued 1/31/14) went to foster in Tennessee. He loves having room to stretch and run, and gets along well with the other geldings and colts in his pasture. His foster home is starting him under saddle and very pleased with him.

Horses in foster homes:

- In addition to the 8 horses moved to foster, there are currently 14 horses in foster homes: Song (TX), Jax (OK), Black Lady (KS), Valor (WA), Mitsey (IL), Reva (NY), Joy (NC), Lacy (OR), Maggie Mae (MA), Sailor and Opal (TN), Chester (DE), Cora (CA), Edison (ID). (Horses in the same state may be in separate foster homes.)
- Sailor (FMRescue Sailor, 2013 bay colt, rescued 2/10/13 in utero) was gelded.
- Maggie Mae (2005 bay mare, rescued 6/6/13) is back under saddle and riding very nicely.
- Opal (1994 cremello mare, rescued 6/11/13) is not able to be ridden or worked much at her current foster home. She is a nice little pony-size mare, great with kids and beginners, and loves attention. She needs a new foster or adoptive home. She would be great as a kids' pony!

Of course there are still a lot more foster horses out there, so we encourage you to check on their progress as the foster homes post news about them!

Adoptions:

Avalon (2002 bay filly) was adopted by a home that is very excited about training her “from the ground up” and enjoys her sweet personality.

Freedom (Northdreams Freedom, 2003 bay mare) was returned to FM in mid-March. She had been adopted with high hopes of doing competitive carriage driving, but Freedom was extremely unhappy driving. Her adopter contacted FM, per the adoption contract, so that we could find her a home that fit better. Freedom is exactly what a pre-approved adopter was looking for and was re-adopted within a matter of days!

Nordic (RKT Nordic Wynning Lady, 2004 bay mare) and Sable (UDM Sable, 2001 black mare) were both adopted in February and are settling into their new homes.

Donations Needed

Buying directly at the auction, or from an individual prior to auction, is much better for the horses and usually helps reduce the costs involved, but it changes the way that FM fundraises. Instead of raising money for a horse at a broker lot and then calling in pledges when we have enough money raised, we must have the funds up front. We also have to pay for someone's time to attend the auction and they need money in hand to pay for the horse, besides having transportation arranged (i.e. take a trailer to the auction) and have a quarantine place ready. FM is currently paying \$50 for Cindy's gas and expenses to attend the New Holland auction, which we pay her whether or not she gets a horse as there's no way of knowing if there will be Morgans selling for kill buyer prices. For horses purchased directly from an individual, FM typically pays a minimal purchase price (usually about \$300) and has to pay for transport (the Amish don't deliver), quarantine, health certificate, Coggins, etc..

In order to keep FM's bank accounts positive so we can continue to save Morgans, *please* consider making donations either on a regular basis or when you see that we have a new horse (which is several times a month). PayPal makes this very easy with a monthly payment option. We don't have the urgent emails with sad-looking horses at the broker lot who only have x days until they ship, but the need is actually greater because there is no grace period – we have to be there and be ready when the horse goes through the auction or when an owner contacts us. It is ultimately better for the horses and less expensive for FM, but we need your help to do it.

Upcoming Events

Are you going to a horse show or event? Would you like to help spread the word about Forever Morgans? Please consider going to an event -- either one of these or one you're planning on attending -- and helping at an informational booth or posting flyers. It can be as simple as printing and posting a few flyers about FM and available horses, or you can go all-out and have a booth with banners, merchandise, and a presentation about FM horses during the show. FM especially needs people who are willing to

take an FM foster or adopted horse as an example of the horses we save. You could be the one who helps a horse find its forever home!

Your gas and other expenses may count as tax-deductible donations for FM. With prior approval, most shows will waive the stall fee for an FM horse being presented. So if you have an FM horse and are going to the show anyway, please consider representing FM!

Please email the Board at forevermorgans@hotmail.com if you'd like to volunteer! FM especially needs volunteers for Southern States in Raleigh May 21-24. We'll have a booth and have been asked to have 2 horses presented -- there are several foster horses that could go but need someone to get them there, and we need volunteers for the booth!

- April 26: HOTMHC Spring Fun Show (Seguin, TX)
DCT Farm / Teresa Strickland will help with a booth
- May 1-4: Red River Classic (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma)
- May 8-11: FASH Horse Show (MN)
multi-breed show, Sierra Nash may be attending
- May 17: Mid-States Morgan Horse Club (Hampshire, IL)
Sierra Nash is attending/showing
- May 21-24: Southern States Regional Morgan Horse Show (Raleigh, NC)
www.southernstatesmorgan.com
FM needs 2 "show-ready" horses riding/driving for a presentation
- May 30-June 1: Prairie State Classic Horse Show (Roscoe, IL)
Sierra Nash is attending/showing
- June 25-28: Syracuse International Horse Show (Syracuse, NY)
Kim and Ginny Bloss can attend and present Steppin and/or Showy
- July 17-19: Morgan Masterpiece Horse Show (Oshkosh, WI)
Sierra Nash is attending/showing
- August 1-3: North Star Morgan Americana (MN)
Sierra Nash is attending
- August 7-10: Summer Daze Regional Morgan Horse Show (Fort Worth, TX)
<http://www.summerdazemorgan.com/>
DCT Farm / Teresa Strickland is attending and can help with a booth
- September 10-13: New York Regional Morgan Show (Syracuse, NY)
Kim and Ginny Bloss can attend and present Steppin and/or Showy
- October 11-18: Morgan Nationals (State Fair Park, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma)

Committee Reports

To volunteer, please email the Board at forevermorgans@hotmail.com and we'll put you in touch with the committee chair. All of the committees can use help!

Applicant Review: Pat Porter, Chair - Received and processed 3 applications to adopt (1 was withdrawn) and 1 to foster.

Auction Committee : Ann Coe, Chair - A representative from FM has been attending several auctions in central Pennsylvania, primarily New Holland. Kill buyer prices have risen lately, with the current cut-off at about \$600. We are working to develop contacts at other auctions, such as Sugarcreek, and need to have local contacts who can transport and QT.

Foster Follow Up Committee : Danny Collins, Chair - Danny has received several good updates. She sent tips on getting good photos of horses and emphasized how important it is to have good photos and updated descriptions. Fosters know the horse best and FM relies on them to market the horse and find it the best possible forever home.

Breeders/Owners Prior Record Call Back Committee : Danny Collins, Chair - Danny talked to prior owners for Stowaway.

Fundraising : Ginny Bloss, Chair – New merchandise (shirts and totes) are on the FM website.

New Fosters/Prospective Adopters : Janice Scotto, Chair - Nothing to report. We could especially use more foster homes on the west coast!

Publicity Committee: Sierra Nash, Chair -- Sierra is the new chair. She is a Midwest girl and enjoys trail riding and riding/showing in-hand, hunter pleasure, western pleasure, and driving. She has had her first Morgan (and first horse!) for almost two years now and shows her in hunter pleasure mare. Sierra has many publicity goals and is looking for committee volunteers from a wide variety of disciplines/backgrounds!

Rescue Me/Camelot : Christina Friedlan, Chair - No report.

Therapeutic Riding Programs : Heather Rodriguez, Chair - Several therapy programs have been interested in horses. Ideally, the horses need to be evaluated to see if they have the attitude needed for therapy work.

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

Transportation Fund: Martha Cather, Chair – Transportation Fund has had small but steady donations.

Amish Contacts

FM was contacted by another Amish gentleman about a registered mare. She is said to be sound, trained to drive, and have a show record.

Support FM

FM has new shirts and totes with the FM logo and message, and a new Supporters program. See <http://forevermorgans.org/support.htm> for information and photos.

Be a Supporter: Make a tax-deductible donation and receive a 2014 Supporter decal (high-quality vinyl suitable for a vehicle, trailer or window) and other items.

- Bronze: \$25 donation, receives a 2014 Supporter decal and newsletter.
- Silver: \$50 donation, receives a 2014 Supporter decal, newsletter, and 50% OFF ONE shirt or tote bag
- Gold: \$100 donation, receives a 2014 Supporter decal, newsletter, ONE FREE shirt or tote bag, and listed on the Forever Morgans website
- Diamond: \$1,000 donation, receives a 2014 Supporter decal, newsletter, TWO FREE shirts or tote bags, and listed on the Forever Morgans website

Merchandise: Shirts are \$15, totes are \$18. Shirts come in dark green, cardinal red, and natural cotton. They are adult-size 100% cotton tees with a small Forever Morgans logo on the front and an Every Morgan Matters graphic on the back. Totes are 15" x 15", 100% cotton in green with a Rescue Rehabilitate Rehome graphic. Shipping is an additional \$5.80 in the U.S. Please contact Forever Morgans for additional costs for international shipping. To order, email support@forevermorgans.org with your selection, name, email address, mailing address, and total cost. Be sure to include shipping costs. Then send payment (either mail a check or send PayPal to forevermorgans@hotmail.com) with a note that it is for FM merchandise.

Johnny is Going Home

JMF Johnny Who, the gorgeous black stallion FM rescued from New Holland last fall, will soon be going "home." In mid-March we received an email from someone begging us to call her ASAP. In an extremely tearful and emotional call, she told us how she had gotten Johnny from his breeder as a yearling, lovingly raised and trained him as her "heart horse," and then was forced to sell him when she lost her farm in a legal dispute and personal turmoil. She had tried to keep track of Johnny but he disappeared once he was Amish-owned. When she recently purchased property where she could have horses again, she started contacting everyone she could think of. One of Johnny's former owners told her that he had been contacted by FM, and she quickly found Johnny's picture and description on our website. She was overjoyed just to know that he was still alive and healthy! She quickly contacted us and submitted an application to adopt him. It won't be the same farm where he used to live, but when Johnny steps off the trailer after a long road-trip, his "mom" will be waiting and he'll be home. We're pretty sure there will be tears in her eyes; we know there are in ours.