

WINTER 2023 | VOLUME 20 | NUMBER 1

# R E S C U E

THIS YEAR WILL MARK 20 YEARS OF RESCUING EQUINES  
SAVING LIVES ~ ONE AT A TIME

Central New England

Making a difference One horse at a time



Equine Rescue, Inc.

*Victoria Berry Photography*

## EVENTS - 2023

**JANUARY 11<sup>th</sup>** - Board Meeting

**TBA** - 3K or Walk at Palmer  
Motorports

**AUGUST 6<sup>th</sup>**- Benefit Horse  
Show - Felton Field in Barre

**OCTOBER 14<sup>th</sup>** - Fall Festival  
at the Rescue, West Brookfield.

### *Our voices to the world:*

<i>President</i>	<i>B. Johnson</i>
<i>V.President</i>	<i>V. Berry</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>R. McLam</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>L. Broman</i>
<i>EBoard</i>	<i>W. Robinson</i>

### *~Committee Members~*

<i>K. Christiansen</i>	<i>E. Blum</i>
<i>K. Hosley</i>	<i>S. Pomponio</i>
	<i>R. Banks</i>

### *~Public Relations~*

<i>L. Drazek</i>	<i>C. Cordon</i>
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### **TO CONTACT US:**

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**West Brookfield, MA 01585**

**Website: [cneer.com](http://cneer.com) on fb cneer**

**We are a 501(c)3 organization.  
Donations are 100% tax deductible.**

### **Cover Photo:**

***The gift of clean water.***

***Photo Credit: Victoria Berry***



Thank You  
R o x a n n  
B a n k s



Our treasurer for the last five years has been Roxann Banks. She has been excellent in all her accomplishments while completing her duties as treasurer. Her attention to details, were second to none. She also cracked the whip when it came to detailing every expense and what category it belonged in. We are going to miss this lady and her abilities to keep us all on our toes. She came to every board meeting with a color-coded graph of expenses. Each penny of every donation was meticulously logged in and given its place of honor for all of us to be grateful for.

She also didn't mind getting her hands dirty mucking out a stall or two on a regular basis. She will be going back to take college courses in Animal Advocacy. A wonderful opportunity for us all to learn from her. Thank you Roxann for your wit, your willingness to help at every event and your tenacity and devoutness in keeping our books.

We are welcoming Laurie Broman as our treasurer to follow in Roxann's footsteps. We are sure she will be equally as diligent and steadfast in accounting and our ability to keep our lights on and our doors open.

## A GLIMPSE INTO A DAY AT THE FARM



### HORSES CURRENTLY IN THE RES CUE

Badonk - 16 y.o. donkey sanctuary  
Bandit - Aged pony - sanctuary  
Captain Jack - 5 y.o. Shetland pony  
Gia - 15 y.o. Paint  
Jersey Girl - 11 y.o. QH mare  
Li'l Jack - Aged Mini  
Minnie Pearl - 17 y.o. pony  
Monet - 13 y.o. pony companion

Sega - 17 y.o. Andalusian - Blind  
Sully - 16 y.o. Appendix  
Tecumsah - Three y.o. TB  
Thunder- Aged mini  
Winnie - Paint, aged mare  
Whiskey Lullaby - Aged TB gelding-  
Whisper/Mama - aged Haflinger  
Zinga - 22 y.o. bay TB mare

**MINUS 49 DEGREES****with the wind chill**

It really was freezing out. Water buckets frozen solid, hoses didn't stand a chance, spilled water froze as it hit the ground. The extreme temperature was forecast so we had prepared. Brought out the heavy weight blankets for the horses, all different sizes, moved the outside vehicle where it could be easily charged, plugged in outside heaters in the 500 gallon tub and broke out the overalls for myself. The stalls were bedded with extra shavings and we did everything we could to keep water buckets free from the ice and topped off with warm water. Extra hay was distributed and each meal had warm water stirred in. Every barn window and door was closed tight, taped the small gaps in boards and prayed. We were particularly anxious about the older kids in the barn as horses tend to colic when temps drastically change. So happy to report that every horse, pony and mini including Badonk made it through these frigid temps with flying colors. The drastic change in temps after lows being in the ^40 & 50 degree range this winter was the concern. It was an 80 degree difference within 24 hours! Kylie helped immensely with a smile and skip in her step. Linda came despite my warning of frostbite after ten minutes exposed in this cold. So grateful to all who called and texted to check on us and to those who wanted to help despite these temps and to those who showed up even after volunteers were canceled for Saturday morning!

**AROUND THE BARN**

by Vicky Berry

U A warm welcome to new volunteers: **Elizabeth Bronstein** and **Barbara O'Donnell**! They bring with them many talents.

U Congrats to **Christie Cordon** on her new career move (and still volunteering).

U School break brought our teen volunteers **Reid** and **Olivia** back to help with stalls and give attention to their favorite horses. So good to see them both.

U **Gunner** is doing very well in his new home with Jane McNeil!

U We are planning a Spring barn painting for the back of the barn and the peaks. Anyone interested please let us know via text or a call. 413-265-3270.

U Fall Festival at the Farm will be October 14th this year! We are already making plans for a great, fun day. Looking forward to this event with excitement! Lots of fun.

U Thank you **Hardwick Co-op** for the huge bag of treats for the horses.

U **Monet** is back on the farm. Her adoption did not work out.

U A huge and grateful thank you to all of you who donated over \$1400 on Giving Tuesday through facebook and via mail!

U **Amazonsmile** no longer exists to do your shopping for the horses. We do not know why. Choosing us when shopping, brought in almost \$200 every quarter. We thank you all and will miss this support very much.

## PALMER MOTORSPORTS PARK

On October 16th, *Palmer Motorsports Club* hosted *Mustangs on the Mountain*

CNEER, Inc. was invited to take part in this annual show.

We are very grateful to Palmer Motorsports Park for this wonderful opportunity to share in Mustangs on the Mountain.

Our president, Betsy Johnson, PR rep. Christie Cordon and Jerry Doble represented us at this event. They introduced information to the avid Mustang community on how to help the rescue continue our mission: saving horses from slaughter, abandonment and neglect. It was a beautiful day to get the word out and we thank all those that donated to our mission of saving equines!



Jerry Doble and Christie Cordon making an awesome impression at the Palmer Motor Sports event!

## PONDERISMS

\*No heaven can heaven be, if my horse isn't there to welcome me.

*Anonymous*

\*A pony is a childhood dream. A horse is an adulthood treasure. *R.Carroll*

\*Friendship is always waiting for you at the barn.

\*Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.

*Confucius*

\*If one life shines, the life next to it will catch the light.

\*No hour of life is wasted that is spent in the saddle. *W.Churchill*

\*Your eyes show the strength of your soul. *P.Coeblo*

\*The pitchfork is the great equalizer.

\*You cannot train a horse with shouts and expect him to obey a whisper.

\*All dreams can com true, if we have the courage to pursue them. *W.Disney* \*  
Broken crayons still color. Grow through what you go through.

\*Whatever you are, be a good one. *Lincoln*

\*There are those who give with joy, and that joy is their reward. *K.Gibran*

\*You have to be odd to be number one.

\*Everyone you admire was once a beginner.

\*Be brave enough to suck at something new!

\*Where in this wide world can man find nobility witout pride, friendship without envy, or beauty without vanity? Here where grace is laced with muscle and strength by gentleness confined -

*Ronald Duncan*

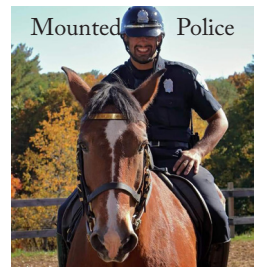
# FALL

On October 15<sup>th</sup> 2022 we had our very first Fall Festival with a wonderful turnout. There were **Mounted Police from Worcester**, our very own **West Brookfield Fire Dept.**, Carriage rides by **Leah Shattuck**, Gourmet cupcakes made by **Wendy LaRocque and Ray**, Vendors: **B's Place, Moonlit Forrest, Misty Perez, Water Colors by Leslie, Ashley Skowyra**, and for the kids we had pony rides by **Stoney Hill Farm**, face painting, pumpkin decorating, corn hole. We had several tables of beautiful raffles including a hand made quilt by **Little Gilly Quilts**, lottery ticket baskets by **Lynda & Rico Federico**. A Hilton, BathBombs, all kinds, and so much many beautiful raffles little article. Thank you enjoy the sunny day and to our awesome volunteers who worked so hard to put this all together. I need to mention **Sari Pomponio** who went above and beyond! Tom Berry, Marty and Derek Gryszowka who trimmed trees, moved the earth to make it all happen. **Palmer H.S. Student Council & Melissa Briggs** for parking cars. **Hardwick Crossing Golf Course** for golf carts. We have an amazing Event Committee and meetings were held from July to October to plan this event.



**Hozempa and Carol** weekend stay at the gift certificates of more. There were too to mention in this all who came out to

**THIS FALL, 2023 OUR FESTIVAL WILL BE OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup>!**



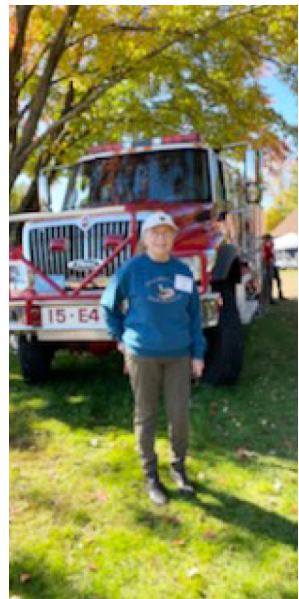
# FESTIVAL

## Awesome Folks Doing An Amazing Job



*Above:* Betsy Johnson Vicky Berry, CherylDeMarco Berry, Linda Allington, Lynne & Jerry Doble, Brenda Little, Roxann Banks, Landon Kenyon, Emily Federico, Pam Fournier, Christie Cordon, Laurie Drazek, Sheryl Bartolomei, Sari Pomponio, & Lauren Pomponio. Front row: Marie, Olivia Beal, Grace Noble

*Missing from the picture above are:* Penny Blum & Randy McLam, Mark Woodin, Al & Tom Berry, Marty & Derek Gryszowka, Dave Kenyon, just to mention a few. It took a village of friends.



## LUIGI

Luigi came to us when the lady that had him realized he needed more help than her budget would allow and more time than her job would allow. He was born with his disabilities and at only 10 months old, he was having trouble walking and could not run at



*Luigi at 9 months old.*

all and his back was becoming misaligned. Betsy said YES and we took him in immediately. After we made many phone calls to prosthetic companies near and far there was only one that returned our call. Ronnie Graves prosthetic company could care for animals. We didn't know it then, but he has saved giraffes, elephants among others and has gone to many disaster areas to care for the animals that were affected! We communicated back and forth and when Ron's wife, Linda saw a picture of Luigi she wanted him for her own. So the process began. Living in Florida, it was the first time we would adopt one of our equines out that far. We saw pictures of the property, where he would be stalled and the other donkeys and horses that were there. Adoption papers were filled out. Hercules aka Luigi... (Hercules was the name given to him when he came into the rescue as he had surmounted so many

obstacles, his adopters renamed Luigi). Once the adoption was approved, he was heading to his new home! The search for transportation began. Ron & Linda had a way to pick him up in New York and Tom Berry offered to meet them in New York.

Tom was looking forward to hearing him bray on the trip, he thought for sure with Luigi able to see all the New York traffic that he would do a little braying. Luigi was happy as a clam traveling to New York and had nothing to say, only a sideways glance at his chauffeur from time to time. Luigi has had many years of happiness since being adopted. He has grown and every time there was a change in his growth, a new prosthetic had to be fitted to accommodate his height and weight. When Luigi first came into the rescue, prosthetics were approximately \$1600 and we don't know what they cost today! With Ron and Linda as his Mom & Dad he gets fitted with a new prosthetic these days just to change the color. We receive pictures all the time and feel very blessed to have Ron & Linda as part of our CNEER family. We meet the absolute best people in the world.



*Ron & Luigi, the miniature Sicilian donkey enjoying each others company.*



## MONET

Monet has returned to the Rescue. Her adoption didn't work out. She has been a good girl since returning. It seems Monet is a bit of an escape artist and couldn't be contained in the lovely field provided to her by her adopters. She has not had any corral breakouts here



so far! She can be opinionated but is very easy to handle. Monet cannot be ridden. She is a beautiful girl and will absolutely make the right person a great friend.

## LPL JACK



Little Jack had some fun yesterday. His sadness is finally leaving him after the loss of his long time pal, Annie the mini. His adopters reported he was not eating and constantly calling for his Annie. We agreed it was in his best interest to come back to the Rescue to be with other horses. They grieve after the loss of their loved ones, too. No one can convince us otherwise. We witness it.

## CAPTAIN JACK

Captain Jack came to us in a depleted state. He was so shut down and didn't really have much sparkle in his eyes. It was obvious he had stopped caring about what came next in his little life. Underweight, dirty and in need of his teeth taken care of right down to his hooves. He had a gash on his hind end



that was probably from falling in the trailer and being stepped on by another horse. After his amazing turn around we are happy to say Jack is back! This little guy has been through a lot. After quarantine (where his healing began) a few months of good food, medical care and lots of love. He is a feisty, lovable little guy.



## TANTASQUA HIGH SCHOOL

**Great job!!!!**  
**Huge THANK YOU to**  
**Tantasqua H.S. Wood Shop**  
**students and teachers for**  
**creating "mini" doors for**  
**Captain Jack and Thunder.**  
**Absolutely a fantastic job. We**  
**had a great time meeting great**  
**teachers and each talented**  
**student.**



Roxann and students. Winnie getting in on the fun too.



Everyone was having a good time learning, especially us! This class is very talented and were a pleasure to meet.



Captain Jack and Thunder loving their rooms with a view.

## THE JOYS OF WINTER ON THE FARM

This winter has been pretty kind to us; in a way. The strong winds haven't been fun at all. The three feet of snow we usually can look forward to every winter hasn't shown up as of this writing in February! The mild temps of 40 and 50 are a surprise to all of us and when the temps dip below freezing at night it can be difficult on the horses systems. The bout of -49 degrees with the wind chill factor the week of brutal; really brutal. this saying one week temperatures because will be here before forward to having the out past 4 p.m. and the longer daylight hours. Wonder if they really are going to keep the clocks at one time instead of the hour ahead and the hour back. Will be interesting to see. what happens if they follow through with what is planned.

*"Oh, look at the weather being all springy and cute; like it didn't try to kill us last week"*

February 3rd was I roared when I read after these crazy it is so true. Spring we know it. Looking horses happy to stay



**Left:** Eco & Kidd  
**Right:** The strong winter winds blew over our anchored shavings shelter. Thank goodness for **Jerry, Mark & Tom** coming to the rescue.




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**RANDOM THOUGHTS** Someone said "Just start writing and see what comes up" So I started ...right here... Mom and Dad came immediately to mind; one was a wild child and the other so responsible and practical. Remembering one was going to buy me a horse and the other refused to hear of it. Writing about Abiral Saif the horse I bought for my oldest daughter and then buying Sugarfoot, the Arabian for myself and knowing it was the best part of my dreams ever! To this day I remember the thrill of being in the back seat of the car as a child and seeing someone riding on the side of the road, how majestic those horses looked, just watching them and wishing it were me! Watching Fury every Saturday morning on TV and Zorro at night. Dreaming of riding through the trails like they did, at speeds faster than I ever had gone in my life and smiling the whole time. Wonderful memories of playing in the dirt with those little plastic horses, cowboys & Indians with the bowed legs; building corrals out of twigs and losing myself in the stories I created while playing. So that is what came up when I "just started writing".

Vicky



The good people and companies on this page and throughout the newsletter support Central New England Equine Rescue, Inc. in valuable ways. Please give them your support when possible!



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*It's A Pleasure Training*  
Orange, MA  
978-652-2231



**Cardinal Ridge**  
Equestrian Center  
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Many thanks to Sarah Newton, DVM, to farriers Bob Rotti and Matt Caprioli. Thank you to Bill Domey, M. Charles Cheney and Kerry Castorano for all your support and your kindness. Thank you to Linda Allington, Sari Pomponio, Diane Dwyer, Hal & Carol Chapin, Sarah Green, Vishal Khobare, Cindy Carbonneau, Laurie Drazek & the entire wonderful Ekstrom Family for your continued ongoing support and your generosity. Thank you to Doris Goodwin & PayPal donors and our FB donors. Thank you Linda Mercier, Penny Blum, Lucia Field, Doris Goodwin & Elizabeth Bronstein for your sponsorships. Thank you Erin Sheehan Daly, the McQuestion Family, SHF and the Gonya's for your incredible foster care. Thank you to Jerry Doble, Tom Berry, Landon Kenyon, Kylie, Rylee, Vishal & Mark and to Derek & Devin Gryszowka for all the heavy lifting and repairs. Thank you to our volunteers who muck out stalls: Penny, Elizabeth, Sari, Jerry & Lynne, Linda, Doris, Barbara, Pam from ME, Mark, Vishal, Roxann, Brenda, Stevie, Christie, Laurie, Marie, Reid, Olivia, Danni, Ariya & Emily! Thank you to Annie, for your help on Thursdays! Thank you to the Hardwick Co-Op. for all you do for horses that need you. Thank you to all who go above and beyond to make sure the horses here at CNEER are taken care of by your support, your time and encouragement.