

# THE HORSE'S VOICE

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

"In the end we will conserve only what we love, we will love only what we understand, and we will understand only what we are taught." *Baba Dioum*

As a non-profit educational and humanitarian organization, CMVHR is dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of horses and to teaching kindness and compassion for all living beings. Moreover, we are committed to helping people of all ages and abilities learn vital skills about life, find self-confidence, self-esteem, discover their own potential and experience the healing power of horses. Since 2003, private philanthropy from friends like you has set a foundation for our success on which we are growing and expanding to change more lives for the better -- one horse at a time and one person at a time.

In our 14 years, we've helped raise a lot of kids and have watched them grow and flourish. Noah, who is starting his second summer with us through OneWorkSource, a federally funded program for which we are an approved worksite, first came to CMVHR in kindergarten

on a school field trip. For graduation this June, his mother made a collage of then and now photos. She asked for our help with the bookends of the collage -- then and now -- which were both taken here at the farm twelve years apart.

Our veterinary internship program continues to shine as well. Emily, our 2004 intern just graduated from the College of Veterinary Medicine at CSU. Her dad sent us the news with a note of thanks and a gift. Cassandra, our 2011 intern is a certified vet tech. She visits every year and is like a daughter. Today, we have the privilege of mentoring Lydia, an 11 year old aspiring veterinarian (pgs 3 & 8).

In addition to internships, our work with at-risk youth has ongoing impact. This winter an 18 year old young man completed 100 hours of community service as a condition of probation. He endured the weather, enjoyed the challenge and discovered the magical healing power of the horse. Sometimes it's just about giving someone an opportunity they don't otherwise have. For this young man, his dream was to join the Army; a dream that is now



*Equi-Riders 4-H Club learns how to check respiration and digital pulse and listen to belly sounds on Rebel.*

coming true. Without his time here he would not have qualified for service. This is why we do it. Our donors make it possible.

Together, we have helped hundreds of horses find happy new beginnings and safeguarded countless others through education programs to prevent abuse and neglect. The positive, lasting impact our work has on human lives is less quantifiable, but as important. Everyone has that one person, one situation, one kind word that altered us in an encouraging way, forever. The far-reaching effects of the confidential, quiet side of our work will be paid forward in ways we may never know or understand. Kindness can cause ripples that are felt around the world.

This issue of *The Horse's Voice* celebrates the donors who make this life-changing work possible. Also featured is an exciting update on our capital campaign to build the Sally E. Morehouse Memorial Rehabilitation and Training Center, our expanding reach with Chauntel Gillilland on board as Barn Manager, and a snapshot of a day in the life of a horse rescuer.

If you are not currently a donor -- **please consider making a gift today.** Your support makes hard work achievable, happy new beginnings attainable, and miracles real. To our loyal supporters -- thank you! Our successes belong to you. With lasting gratitude,

*Edward Mrozik*

## CAMPAIGN & REHABILITATION CENTER UPDATE

In November, 2016, we launched a capital campaign to build the Sally E. Morehouse Memorial Rehabilitation and Training Center. The primary purpose of this center is to enable us to be a facility that provides hope, healing and recovery in all seasons. Our campaign goal was set at \$75,000. We are thrilled to announce that donors responded quickly and generously and by early February, we raised enough money to break ground on construction. We want to thank everyone who made this possible.

The building is already in use and fulfilling the vision. It is with tremendous pride that we share the news that CMVHR is now a host site for the Essex County Equi-Riders 4-H Club. (below right photo and story on page 3)

We still have some work to do to complete the project as envisioned, including installing a rolling garage door and a people door. The doors will protect riders and program participants from the elements while allowing horses, equipment and people to enter and exit. Door installation is on the docket of summer projects. Commemorating



Sally for whom the building is named is another task on which we are working. Eddie is adding his personal touch with original artwork. Sally lost her ability to walk at an early age, but she never lost her courage, strength, sense of humor, positive outlook or her compassion for all living beings. She and Buck, one of our rescue horses, developed an unbreakable bond. Buck recognized Sally's vulnerabilities and would gently nuzzle her hair and stand quietly for Sally to brush him from her wheelchair. Sally passed away October 2016. It is an honor to carry on Sally's legacy of fostering kindness and hope through our work.

A building dedication is being planned for 2018 to coincide with CMVHR's 15th anniversary. A save-the-date notification will be included in our winter issue of *The Horse's Voice*. We are grateful to the donors who made the Sally E. Morehouse Memorial Rehabilitation and Training Center possible. Thank you, beyond words. Your backing and belief in our work is inspiring.

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## EXPANDING OUR REACH

With thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, in August 2016 we hired a full-time barn manager, Chauntel Gilliland. Having our first-ever paid position has enabled us to not only increase our capacity for equine rescue and rehabilitation, but has also enabled us to expand our reach and impact through education and outreach programs.

By way of example, CMVHR is a new host site for the Essex County Equi-Riders 4-H Club. Chauntel and Laura Benedict are the Club leaders and Nancy and Eddie have been recruited to be 4-H volunteers. Despite the name, this is not a riding club but a learning program. Members participate in horse hippology and horse bowl to enhance their understanding of equine science and husbandry. They watch demonstrations on hoof and veterinary care and with our rescue horses, get hands-on experience. Since April, experiential learning with the horses has included listening for a heartbeat and belly sounds through a stethoscope, checking digital pulse, braiding and banding manes for showing, and saddle fitting. As a safety measure, kids are required to wear helmets for all hands-on horse activities. Helmets are provided for those who don't have their own.

Chauntel has also enabled us to expand our volunteer programs, especially for youth. Our policy is that there



Chauntel teaches the youngest 4-H club participant how to put on a saddle and girth.



Lydia (left) is an 11 year old youth volunteer who aspires to be a veterinarian. Chauntel (right) is her mentor. Below is a quote from Lydia's mom that touched our hearts.

"Chauntel is everything a mother could want in a mentor for her daughter."

Donna Moses



"Thank you so much for letting us join your group. It's well worth the ride. What a beautiful place Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue is. We loved the tour and the learning opportunities. This is an amazing opportunity and we are truly blessed to be part of the Equi-Riders 4-H Club."

Jodi Drinkwine



are at least two adults and one vehicle on the premises whenever we are working with youth volunteers under the age of 18. With Chauntel here during the week, we have been able to expand our program for kids to come to the farm during school breaks. Some of our volunteers, like Kelly (right photo) come from as far away as Long Island to spend time with Chauntel and the horses.

CONTINUED on page 6.....



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 a donation. It's about making a  
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*Kathy Calvin*

**How wonderful that no one  
 need wait a single moment to  
 improve the world.**

*Anne Frank*

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**To our loyal donors — thank you!!!  
 Together, we are making a difference. Simply put, we couldn't do what we do without you.**

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## EXPANDING OUR REACH CONTINUED...

### In Other's Words

"Many thanks to all the wonderful beings – two-legged and four-legged – at CMVHR! You are doing so much good that reaches many corners of our world. A small donation for Sally's Memorial, though enormous happiness and gratitude from my heart."

*Kathy Esper*

"Agriculture in the classroom is a terrific program. Every year a different sector of NYS Agriculture is highlighted as a way to introduce farming and ranching to our young citizens. Thanks to volunteers like Nancy, we are able to reach every school that wants Agriculture in the Classroom!"

*Linda Gilliland, Quality of Life Issue Leader, Cornell Cooperative Extension*

"I just wanted to tell you guys how much I appreciate you giving me the opportunity to bond with the large animals, as well as allow me to help you on the farm. You guys have taught me to be patient, curious, kind, loving and how to be aware of my surroundings. This is just a thank you from me and my dad".

*Youth volunteer*

In addition to increasing the programs we hold here at the farm, we expanded our reach this year by volunteering to read in local schools as part of New York State Agriculture Literacy Week. We reached three classrooms (K-2). Most of the students to whom we read have been to the farm as part of a school field trip, so they were full of excitement and questions during the activities session after the reading. It was a very rewarding experience we will do again next year.



*Jean volunteers every Friday – rain, sleet, snow or shine – and she's been here in all of those. Her smile, positive energy and love of horses brighten the gloomiest of days.*



*Nancy reading to second graders as a volunteer for NYS Agriculture in the Classroom.*

offers employment and supportive services, DayHab and volunteer opportunities for developmentally disabled residents at Mountain Lake Services, summer camp and school field trips, and more....

Horses are great teachers and healers. It is the generous support of donors like you that enables CMVHR to facilitate learning, healing and life-changing experiences for people of all ages and abilities. Our reach is because of you.

These new initiatives are in addition to our longstanding programs which include veterinary internships for high school and college students (page 7), curriculum-based activities for home schooled kids, serving as a worksite for nationally recognized groups like Youth Advocate Program for at-risk youth (right photo) and OneWorkSource that



**A lot of people have gone further than they thought they could, because someone else thought they could. *Unknown***

# LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING FORWARD



Oh I love this picture. Still the best summer I've ever had and I never thought I'd take so much back with me home. Love what you two do and sure wish you guys were closer.

Love you both ❤️ *Cassandra Dunn, 2011 intern*

Time does fly. This photo was taken in 2011 at the conclusion of Cassandra's veterinary internship with us through Becker College. We worked with Cassandra and the school to design a summer program to qualify for course credit – at no charge to the school or Cassandra.

Prior to coming to CMVHR, Cassandra's assignment was to write a paper describing what she would do to evaluate a rescue horse that experienced trauma, and set a path for recovery – physical and emotional. Once at the farm, Cassandra did just that. She worked side-by-side with Eddie to evaluate and rehabilitate Mazy, a horse with a horrific fear of saddles. At the end of her six weeks, Cassandra was not only saddling Mazy without issue, she was riding her.

After the experiential learning component of the internship, Cassandra revisited her paper and edited it based on the actual experience versus the hypothetical. Today, Cassandra is a certified veterinary technician. Forever, she will be our friend.

In 2004, before relocating our farm from Thurman, NY to Westport we had the privilege and pleasure of welcoming Emily Cotran as a veterinary intern for the summer. Emily stayed with a friend nearby and came daily to work hands-on with the horses. To earn recognized credit for her school, Emily was required to engage in all horse care activities with a particular focus on feeding and nutrition, veterinary, dental and hoof care, rehabilitation, training and conditioning. The photo below is Emily exercising Silverado – who has since found his forever, loving home. We were thrilled to learn this winter from Emily's dad, who continues to support our work annually in honor of his daughter, that Emily recently graduated from the School of College of Veterinary Medicine at Colorado State. We couldn't be more proud of Emily – or more humbled to have played a small role. Congratulations, Emily!



This summer, we are looking forward to welcoming another intern, Kat! (left photo). Kat's internship was designed by Kat, inspired by our rescue work and approved by Oregon State University. Kat will use her incredible skills in art combined with her love for horses, her interest in advocacy, welfare and education to create a documentary of our work to garner interest from a wider audience.

Kat has been coming from Oregon several times a year for several years, to spend time with us at the farm helping to care for the horses. We are super excited to have Kat here for an extended stay and to work with her on this important school project.

**CRANE MOUNTAIN VALLEY HORSE RESCUE, INC.**

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www.cmvhr.org



Gail Guenther

*Since 2003: Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue, Inc. has been dedicated to equine rescue and rehabilitation and to restoring horsemanship, the heritage and humane treatment of the horse.*

**Contribute with Confidence**

90 cents of every tax-deductible dollar donated goes directly to the care of the animals

A copy of the latest Financial Report and Registration filed by this organization may be obtained by contacting us at the above address and phone or by contacting the Office of the Attorney General, Department of Law, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

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**RESCUE WORK TAKES A TEAM**

Operating a horse rescue program is a 365 day a year commitment. To do it right, it takes a team of people dedicated to the care of the animals. With rescue horses who often come with unknown and unforeseen emotional scars, the bench of devoted professionals has to be deep. As an example, we are very fortunate to have two farriers. Tim has been with us for 17 years and travels 1 1/2 hours one-way every six to eight weeks. Autumn teamed up with us three years ago when we rescued our first horse with a fear of men so bad, he wouldn't let Tim or Eddie anywhere near him. We now have two horses that fear men. Autumn tends to them and Tim and Autumn work as a team for two other horses who require trimming every three to four weeks. They stagger their schedules and it works great.

Dedicated veterinarians are the other critical part of our successful team. These photos are snapshots of Vermont Large Animal Clinic veterinarians — Dr. Phil, Dr. Amanda and Dr. Amber —



during their annual spring visit to vaccinate horses, perform dental work, and do other procedures as necessary including lameness exams, x-rays, castrations, blood work, physicals, etc.

In addition to exceptional horse care, VLAC specializes in training the next generation of veterinarians through internship programs. We are grateful to Dr. Phil and his

team for helping us advance experiential learning by allowing CMVHR volunteers, like Lydia, who aspire to be large animal vets to assist where they are able.

We are grateful to our team of dedicated professionals and our generous donors who positively impact so many lives.



UPPER RIGHT: Hawkeye having dental work.

MIDDLE: Castration surgery. Lydia is holding the umbrella for the team, while observing.

LOWER RIGHT: Lydia is recovery assistant to Dr. Phil. She is leading Bowie from the recovery room back to his stall after his surgery.

**Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.**  
*Benjamin Franklin*