

THE HORSE'S VOICE

2003-2018: CELEBRATING 15 YEARS

Since 2003, our donors have been making happy new beginnings possible. Our donors are the lifeblood of our work to save horses and heal hearts. This issue of *The Horse's Voice* celebrates you — our donors — and the horses and humans whose lives you help change for the better. **Thank you.**



Remembering Pops: Pops was shot with a high powered rifle, starved and left suffering to death by his owner. He recovered and became a CMVHR ambassador for the prevention of cruelty to animals through our education and outreach programs.

Pops was a favorite for kids big and small. He attended Westport School Kindergarten graduation two years in a row, standing quietly with each child for a school photo. Lowe's Heroes -- adult volunteers from Lowe's Home Improvement Store -- built him his own run-in shed. In his third decade of life, Pops developed cancer, was humanely euthanized and laid to rest here at the farm.

During a criminal trial that lasted nearly three years and required our testimony in over a dozen appearances, Pops was police evidence while at CMVHR and his recovery was at our expense. His owner was found guilty of animal cruelty — a misdemeanor in New York State



Pops wearing a special rig we made to protect the bullet wound in his back, which was infected and full of maggots on intake.

when it comes to horses. When the guilty verdict was rendered, Pops was awarded to CMVHR's ownership. When the judge spoke those words and we knew Pops would never know suffering again, we openly wept and breathed a visceral sigh of relief.

This is what we do. We never know when the call will come, we just know it will. Our donors give us the wherewithal to respond when it does.

In 15 years, we've been lead humane agent for law enforcement in six cases with as few horses as one (Pops) to as many as 41 (Essex County). In criminal investigations, to ensure a fair trial we can't speak about our role or share stories on social media, so many times — like this winter (pages 2 & 3) — we are working quietly but feverishly behind the scenes, caring for the horses, preparing trial documents, testifying in court, and advocating on behalf of horses everywhere. We are the voice for the voiceless. Our donors give us that voice.

Thank you to all who make our work possible. We couldn't do it without you. If you are not currently a donor, please consider a tax-deductible gift today. Every dollar makes a difference and can truly save a life. Enjoy reading what you help make possible! *Ed Mrozik*

EIGHT HORSES SEIZED IN EQUINE-CRUELTY CASE

December 6, 2017, CMVHR accompanied the New York State Police, Essex and Franklin County Sheriffs and two veterinarians on an equine-cruelty investigation. The owner was charged with eight counts of animal cruelty under the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law, Section 353. According to that law, it is a Class A misdemeanor when a person “deprives any animal of necessary sustenance, food or drink, or neglects or refuses to furnish it such sustenance or drink.”

Two veterinarians evaluated the horses on scene using the Henneke scoring system; “a scientific method of evaluating a horse’s body condition regardless of breed, body type, sex or age”. On a scale of 1 to 9 with 1 being ‘emaciated’ and 9 being ‘extremely fat’, many of the horses scored 1 like Logan (#1) and Opal (#4) in the right photos.



#1 (Logan) scored 1 on the Henneke Scale and exhibited extreme anguish by weaving and rubbing his gums (he has no teeth) on the window sill. He was standing ankle-deep in feces and urine.



Logan after 4 1/2 months of rehabilitation. In addition to gaining weight, he required hoof care to correct overgrown hooves and to remove a nail embedded in the sole of his foot.

CMVHR assisted with the removal of the horses, and serving in the capacity of humane agent for New York State Police took “custody of the horses seized as evidence in connection with a criminal investigation of animal cruelty” at the rescue’s expense. The ASPCA awarded CMVHR a \$4,000 grant to help cover veterinary expenses necessary to establish a protocol for the horses’ recovery (page 5). We are honored and grateful to have their backing.

CMVHR would also like to thank Linda & Shaun Gilliland, Becky & Jason Hance, and Don Genaway for fostering six of the horses at their farms. At the time of the seizure, CMVHR was at capacity and these amazing friends stepped up to help. It really does take a village. (continued on page 3...)



Above and below—before and after: #4 (Opal). Opal scored 1 on the Henneke scale. Her shaggy coat was for warmth absent body fat. She was covered in lice, urine and feces.



WHEN THE CALL COMES, WE RESPOND

Our donors are part of the village that makes it possible for us to respond when that inevitable call does come — like we did for the eight horses in December, and for five other cases for which we have served as lead humane agent for law enforcement to date (*right side-bar*).

Each case is different; the circumstances, number of horses involved, severity of conditions, rehabilitation needs — and costs — length of time for the trial to play out, number of times we have to testify in court, etc. Two common threads are the reward of being part of the healing for the horses and the undeniable fact that every dollar donated makes a difference. ***“By saving the life of one horse, we may not be changing the world. But, we are changing the world for that one horse.”***

The December case was a victory for more than eight horses that were seized. Another 30 horses in the owner's possession also have a path to care and recovery through intervention. Because we were limited in the number of horses we could take at the time of the seizure, police seized those horses in the most dire need — those who absolutely would not have survived winter. On May 22, 2018, one day before a jury trial, the defendant accepted an adjournment in contemplation of dismissal of the charges in exchange for forfeiting the eight horses to CMVHR's ownership and by court order, having the remaining horses monitored for six months by “*a neutral party to ensure they are in good health*”.

The defendant also forfeited \$11,000 ordered by court at a January security bond hearing to help pay for the horses' care. At the time of the writing of this newsletter, rehabilitation expenses exceeded \$20,000. With the horses forfeited to our ownership, we will continue to incur expenses for their care and upkeep until those who are able to be adopted find new, forever homes.

There is a long list of people to thank for saving these horses — our donors, veterinarians, farriers, volunteers, foster families, law enforcement, and more.....please know how much we appreciate everyone's efforts and contributions. Your support is saving lives and healing hearts. You enable us to be a voice for the voiceless.



August 2005: We assisted New York State police in an equine-cruelty investigation involving 20 horses. All of the horses were removed by law enforcement.

Right photo: Two of the horses from the 2005 case recovering at CMVHR.



Left photo: Four foals from the largest seizure in Essex County, NY history involving 41 horses. Many of the mares seized were pregnant, making the total intake more than 50.

2014: Four of seven horses awarded to CMVHR by court order after they were rendered homeless following a murder-suicide.



2016: We assisted the Sheriff with the removal of Bowie who was chained to a wall in a dark barn for most of his life. His hooves were curled and he hadn't seen daylight, forever.

I am so proud of you, not only for your rescue, care and involvement with the horses but your outreach and commitment to the community! Good for you! And also pats on the back for not trying to rescue hundreds of horses and not being able to take care of them properly. Bless you for taking in when you can, the most pitiful or abused locally and doing such a tremendous job at rehabbing! You are on the top of my list along with our local children's hospital.

Anonymous donor

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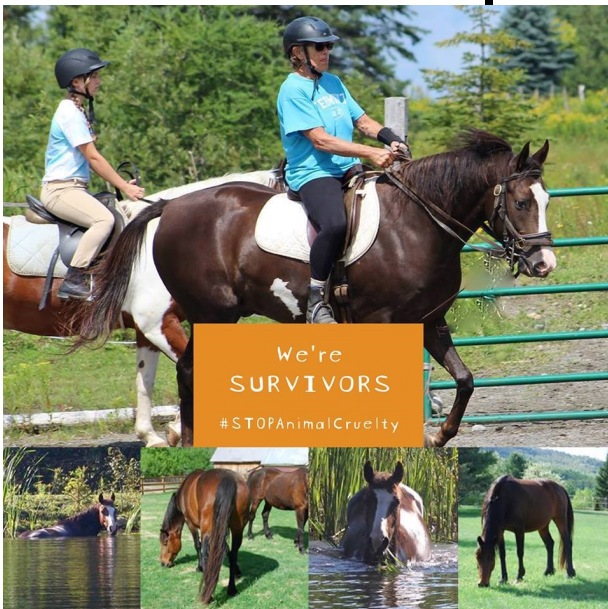
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The ASPCA® (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals®) awarded \$4,000 to CMVHR to assist with an equine-cruelty case in Franklin County, NY (page 2). The ASPCA's grant helped cover veterinary expenses necessary to establish a protocol for the horses' recovery. We are grateful to have their backing.

"We are proud to award this grant to Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue to assist their efforts to provide much-needed care to help rehabilitate these horses," said Dr. Emily Weiss, vice president of ASPCA Equine Welfare. "The ASPCA is committed to improving the welfare of equines across the country, and we are grateful to groups like Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue for the work they do to house and care for horses until they are ready to be adopted."

LEFT: George and Mommy: rescued in 2013 during the Essex County, NY 41 horse seizure [photo graphic created by the NCSPCA]



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

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF:

Peggy Chandler
 James Michael Craig
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 Raymond Fields from the Garvey Family
 Fred, beloved Dog
 Virginia "Mae" Golden
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 Nancy Hayes & Rocky
 Kat & Apollo
 Kim Kaye
 Mommy
 Lydia Moses
 Lila & Evan Zalucky's 10th birthday

REALIZED BEQUESTS:

CMVHR is humbled and honored to have received a gift from the Estate of Peter O.E. Bekker for our work saving race horses and toward the Sally E. Morehouse Memorial Rehabilitation and Training Center.

Our donors are the lifeblood of our work. We make every effort to ensure accurate recognition of your generosity in our publications. Please, if you see an error, contact Nancy at horses@cmvhr.org or 518-962-8512.

** DONORS SINCE WE OPENED OUR DOORS
 * DONORS FOR 3 OR MORE YEARS

FOR THE BENEFIT OF PEOPLE AND ANIMALS

In Other's Words

"You are doing such great things for our dear young people and horses. Many thanks!"

Carol Muller

"I always think of you when looking for a charity, not only because you are local, but also because your compassion and dedication to the plight of these animals is truly an inspiration to me. I'm also aware of the high costs involved, in carrying out your important mission."

Anonymous donor

"It was nice to finally meet you and hear more of Silver's stories. Your facility is set up so safe and organized. What a great place! It is an extraordinary life ambition you have taken on. Sending good thoughts and health your way!"

Megan Roy

"Dear CMVHR. You are awesome!! Keep shining your light—so many people and animals benefit because you do."

Kathy Esper

Community outreach is as critical to our mission as saving horses. Your support enables us to teach, empower and positively impact the lives of children, adults and those with special needs. Some of the work we do is too personal to share, like individual sessions with trauma survivors — combat veterans, sexual assault, domestic violence — and those in recovery from addiction. In these pages are stories we can share — stories of hope and joy made possible by friends like you.

Saving Horses, Healing Hearts is the title of a 20 minute documentary created by our 2017 summer intern who earned course credit — and got an A! — toward her communications degree at Oregon State University. The title captures the essence of what we strive to do beautifully, and her work demonstrates how the rescued horses often become rescuers while they are here.



To view Kat's documentary on YouTube, search *Saving Horses, Healing Hearts: Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue*, or use this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/yb3jpgaj>



ABOVE: Grey helping teach an equine anatomy lesson. The 4H club members finger painted the skeletal structure of a horse on him, with an extra eye circle to represent the Native American power symbol for alert vision.



ABOVE: Two of our youngest volunteers helping feed the horses. They enjoy pulling each other in the hay sled. After chores, they said 'goodnight' to KC and LBJ.

LEFT: AJ from Mountain Lake Services volunteers to help with chores. This day, Zephyr decided to help AJ!

BELOW: Willsboro Central School National Junior Honor Society during a field trip to the farm to learn about the impact of their generosity. The National Junior Honor Society students, led by their amazing teacher Ms. Duso, have raised funds for CMVHR as part of their community service in action efforts for the past several years.



COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue is home to the Equi-Riders 4H Club, led by our amazing Barn Manager, Chauntel Gilliland. Despite its name, this is not a riding club but a hands-on learning and community service club. As part of *True Leaders in Service* and *National Volunteer Appreciation Month*, 4H club members across the nation participated in community service activities during the month of April.

True Leaders in Service participants are "leading positive change that empowers their peers and their communities". CMVHR was honored to have been chosen as a *True Leaders in Service* site and on April 28, we welcomed five youth volunteers from the Equi-Riders 4H Club and two parents. We had great fun caring for horses, feeding and grooming. CMVHR awarded certificates of appreciation to our youth volunteers (below) for giving more than two hours on a Saturday to a greater good!



EQUINE DOCTORS VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME TO TEACH KIDS [below photos]

CMVHR would like to thank Dr. Amber Goodwin from Vermont Large Animal Clinic & Equine Hospital and Dr. Emma Summers, Chiropractor for volunteering time to help teach our youth.



Dr. Amber led a hands-on 4H program on equine dentistry and Dr. Emma led a program on equine chiropractic care. Both doctors are captivating instructors and had the full attention of the kids (and adults) for over two hours!!!



CRANE MOUNTAIN VALLEY HORSE RESCUE, INC.

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Westport, NY 12993

Phone: 518-962-8512
Email: horses@cmvhr.org
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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Chauntel S. Gilliland
Barn Manager & Trainer

CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Lydia Moses, 12, was honored by Representative Elise Stefanik for her charitable efforts. Lydia created a program she creatively named “Buck\$-4-Bales” to raise money to buy hay for our rescue horses. To date, Lydia has raised over \$1,600 and bought a truckload of hay (below). A truckload is just about 10 tons of square bales of hay and feeds the horses for a month.



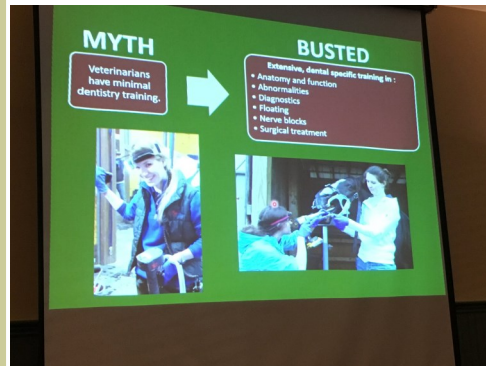
Lydia also volunteers her time to care for the horses at our farm one day a week and has capably represented us at several special events, including the Schroon Lake 4th of July parade and Cycle Adirondacks. More than that, Lydia is adoptive mom to Spartacus whom we rescued in 2014. This young lady is an inspiration to many – us included.

It is truly such an honor to know you and have Lydia see first hand the amazing work you do on behalf of those that can't speak for themselves. Donna-Marie Moses [Lydia's mom]

ALWAYS LEARNING



Chauntel, Eddie and Nancy attended a Barn Manager Conference in February hosted by Vermont Large Animal Clinic and Equine Hospital. In our line of work, it's critical that we stay current on equine diseases and conditions, testing requirements, treatment



options, and overall changes in protocols and procedures. We learned a lot, had tons of fun and were proud to see our photos in the presentation (the Busted Myth on the left is a dental float at CMVHR on Hawkeyel)