

This issue of the Equine Rescuer is dedicated to those citizens who are advocating for passage of the S.A.F.E. Act, see page 2.



EQUINE RESCUE LEAGUE  
FOUNDED APRIL 1990

Volume 28, Number 1

Spring 2018

Find Us  
At These Upcoming Events:

**Help a Horse Day**  
**Prince William County**  
**Animal Control**  
April 29

**Spring Open House**  
May 19-20



"Billy", available for adoption, see page 3



**Save A Tree and**  
**We Can Save More Equines**  
**Go Paperless!**

Paper, printing & postage costs for ONE Newsletter copy could feed a needy equine for ONE DAY.

To receive future copies of *The Equine Rescuer* via email. **Send an email request to: [bubbasays2@aol.com](mailto:bubbasays2@aol.com).** Please include your full name and email address in your request.

Thank You!

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## Hoof Beats

On October 11 2017, members of the ERL team (assisted by the monetary donations from the rest of the team), saved the lives of equines destined for slaughter. Among them was a pregnant mare we named Valiant. Val was in horrible condition, suffering from a severe upper respiratory infection, malnutrition, parasite infestation and overgrown teeth and hooves. This frightened, defensive mare had not received proper care in a very long time, if ever. She was immediately examined by our veterinarian, Dr. Raymond Hyde, DVM, and started on antibiotics and anti-inflammatory medications. Val and the others were dewormed upon arrival to PKF.

Not knowing any history on these animals, we assumed Val would foal in the Spring; however, she delivered a very healthy, strong colt exactly one month from her rescue date. It was a 16-degree night in the wee hours of Veterans Day. Because of the generosity of people like you, our members and donors, both Val and her son, Honor are healthy, fat and well. They continue to thrive under the superlative care they receive at PKF.



A pregnant "Valiant" (Val), upon arrival at PKF.

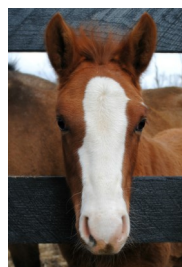
A gallant Draft Mule and a lovely Quarter Horse mare, named Ferris and Jessie respectively, were also saved that day. Both have been placed into very qualified, loving homes.



All of these animals were cramped in a dark and dirty barn waiting to be hauled to Canada or Mexico to be slaughtered for human consumption. My friend, Jessie's adopter, shared with me her favorite quote: "saving one horse will not change the world...but surely it will change the world for that one horse."

With your donation we can and we will continue to properly care for and place into loving, qualified homes these gracious victims of abuse and neglect. Thank you for helping us help them!

For the horses,  
Cheryl Rogers



*A war horse he was born...  
Beating the blade of the butcher...  
He will never run for the roses...  
He will never fight for freedom...  
But perhaps he will Win!*

S.A.F.E Act HR 113



"Honor" faces a brighter future, above with his mom, "Val".

The ERL is an organization that supports the responsible use of working, sport and pleasure horses, ponies, donkeys and mules. Our goals are to prevent the neglect or abuse of any equine, to offer educational programs to the community and to provide rehabilitation and adoption services for those animals in need of our services.



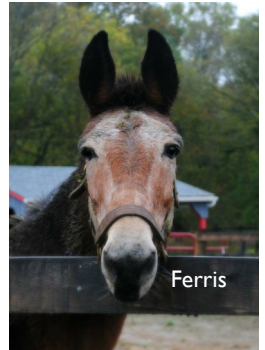
Jessie

March of this year, the US House of Representatives and the Senate Appropriations Committee passed the Omnibus spending bill, which includes the hard-fought provisions that will continue the ban on domestic horse slaughter and protect wild horses and burros from mass killing at the hands of federal agencies. So we thank our legislators for this action, knowing that with the next spending bill, the fight begins again. Continuing to defund USDA inspections at horse slaughterhouses will keep those facilities closed.

Even though the last horse slaughterhouse in the U.S. closed in 2007, more than 100,000 equines are transported each year to slaughterhouses in Mexico and Canada, under horrific conditions, to meet a painful and terrifying death.

At livestock auctions across the country, adoptable equines like the very pregnant Val, the affable mule Ferris, and the lovely and sound Jessie (very rideable), are sold to undisclosed "kill buyers" (the middlemen to foreign-owned slaughterhouses) who bid against rescue groups and legitimate owners and rob horses of the opportunity to have a 2nd chance at life. To end the export of equines for human consumption into other countries, a bipartisan bill called the Safeguard American Food Exports, (S.A.F.E.) Act was introduced in 2017. To encourage our lawmakers to support this bill (H.R. 113/S. 1706), visit: <https://secure.aspca.org/action/SAFE-Act-2017>.

Please stand on the side of the horses.



Ferris

## Myth

Horse slaughter is a form of humane euthanasia.

We have no other options, in the immediate future, for the horses currently going to slaughter each year.

## Fact

"Euthanasia" is defined as a gentle, painless death provided in order to prevent suffering. Horse slaughter is none of those things. See: <https://www.aspca.org/animal-cruelty/horse-slaughter>

The following is based on USDA reports and documentation:

- 92% of horses sent to slaughter are in good condition and therefore able to live out productive lives. These horses could go on to good homes; however, many good owners and rescuer operations are outbid by slaughter buyers at their local auctions.
- Less than 1/100th of the entire horse population will require the help of equine sanctuaries or humane euthanasia.
- For the small number unable to find a home or enjoy a good quality of life, a licensed veterinarian can provide humane euthanasia for the same cost as one month's care for that horse.
- As a safety net, there are approximately 700 horse rescue organizations across the country, with new ones forming all the time, leading the charge to ban horse slaughter and actively working to provide humane solutions for horses.

For the full report, visit: [https://www.aspca.org/sites/default/files/myth\\_fact\\_on\\_horse\\_slaughter\\_aspca\\_2-25-15.pdf](https://www.aspca.org/sites/default/files/myth_fact_on_horse_slaughter_aspca_2-25-15.pdf)



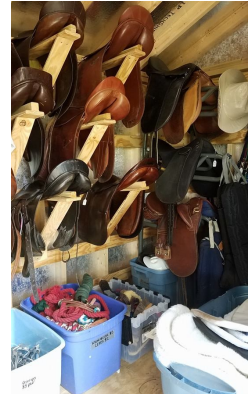
*"The capacity to care is what gives life its most deepest significance." ~Pablo Casal*



## BUBBA'S Helping Horses Saved from Slaughter TACK SHACK "Bit by Bit"

Bubba's Tack Shack, which opened at Promise Kept Farm October 2015, has raised over \$5000 to help equines saved from slaughter, like our beloved Bubba. Ten percent of the sale proceeds go into a fund where individuals or organizations who have rescued equines from slaughter can request a grant to cover that animal's immediate care needs. The remaining sale proceeds are directed towards the daily operating fund at Promise Kept Farm.

The Tack Shack is **open Monday, Friday and Saturday from 8am-12pm or by appointment**. Through the generous donations of new and gently used tack, like saddles, boots, bridles, and blankets, we have just about anything you are looking for to supply your own tack room with quality goods at incredible prices.



## Help Us Keep ERL Running

- ♦ \$2,800/month for mortgage payment
- ♦ Professional fundraiser
- ♦ Gooseneck, flatbed trailer
- ♦ Ivermectin & Strongid wormers
- ♦ Funds for hay and feed
- ♦ Charcoal Grey or Red Barn paint
- ♦ Black Fence paint
- ♦ Postage stamps
- ♦ Free advertising





William R. Branch ("**Billy**") is a lovely 2015 Arabian X Quarter Horse gelding currently standing at around 14.3 hands, with room to grow. He came to ERL in November 2016 when it became apparent to Animal Control Officers that his absentee owner would not be returning to care for him anytime soon. A bright chestnut and a beautiful mover, this fun loving young horse needs a home as soon as possible. Prior to coming to PKF, he had never been handled....but now with the help of our staff and volunteers, he is learning proper ground manners, including being caught, leading, responding to pressure, etc. Did we mention he LOVES to be groomed? This uncomplicated guy needs a wonderful place to grow and learn. Recently trained to carry a rider and he is very proud of the fact that he can do that!



ER Messenger ("**Jimi**") is a bay 2014 Standardbred gelding. He was turned over to ERL in February 2017 when his elderly owner could no longer properly care for him. He has recently completed 60 days of professional ground training. He is ready and waiting for someone to come along and teach him how to carry a rider. He has a sweet and kind temperament and should mature to 15.3 hands.



**Are you ready to be a Forever Home?**  
**Meet other equines available for adoption...**  
**Visit us online at:**

[www.equinerescueleague.org](http://www.equinerescueleague.org),  
Contact us at: 540-822-4577

### Farm Tours





Schedule an individual or group tour by contacting us at 540-822-4577. Meet the wonderful equines here at PKF. Learn how ERL operates and more on horse care and management. All individuals, families clubs or classes are welcome! For a **virtual tour** of our farm shelter, please visit our website at [www.equinerescueleague.org](http://www.equinerescueleague.org).

### How You Can Help:

- Join the League.** Our members receive a semi-annual newsletter, a membership card, and our sincere gratitude. Membership funds are used to maintain the ERL shelter. You can also give a gift membership to a family or honor someone with a memorial.
- Foster a horse or pony.** You can provide individual attention to a special needs, long-term, or permanent resident of the ERL shelter.
- Adopt an equine friend.** Download the adoption application at [www.equinerescueleague.org/adoptionprograms](http://www.equinerescueleague.org/adoptionprograms)
- Volunteer!** If you are at least 18 years old and would like to help, call us at 540-822-4577.
- Buy ERL items, like T-shirts, sweat-shirts, tack and supplies from Bubba's Tack Shack.
- Donate supplies, funds, or services.** All charitable contributions are tax-deductible. ERL is a 501 (c)3 organization.

### ERL Membership and Donation Form

Please accept my membership donation to help abused horses.

<input type="checkbox"/> \$10.00 Junior Membership <input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 Annual Membership <input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00 Family Membership <input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00 Prof / Trade Membership <input type="checkbox"/> \$500.00 Lifetime Membership <input type="checkbox"/> ERL Friend (any amount)		This is... <input type="checkbox"/> a gift membership <input type="checkbox"/> my donation in memory/honor of: Name _____ Address _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	
Your Name: _____		City: _____	
Your Address: _____		State: _____ Zip: _____	
Home Phone: _____		Work Phone: _____	
Payment (check one):			
** Make checks payable to Equine Rescue League		<input type="checkbox"/> Check	<input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card
We accept:    		Credit Card Expiration Date:	3 or 4 digit CID code:#
		Month _____ Year: _____	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Credit Card No: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>			
Cardholder Signature: _____		Date: _____	

Contributions to ERL are tax-deductible.

Please return completed form to: Equine Rescue League

P.O. Box 4366, Leesburg, VA 20177, (540) 822-4577

Online donations via PayPal: [www.equinerescueleague.org](http://www.equinerescueleague.org) or Facebook: @equinerescueleagueofvirginia

**Other Ways To Donate:** Set up a recurring gift to ERL via PayPal — arrange for your company to match your donation — make online purchases via AmazonSmile

# We'd Be Honor'ed To See You

28th Annual

## Spring Open House

May 19-20, 2018

10 am to 4 pm



- ◆ Meet Rescued & Available Equines
- ◆ Tack Sale @ **BUBBA'S**
- ◆ Pet a Pony! *TACK SHACK*
- ◆ Live Music & Demonstrations
- ◆ Huge Bake Sale
- ◆ Raffles

**Free Admission**  
**Free Parking**  
**Rain or Shine**

**Donations Appreciated**  
**Please, No Pets**



**Farm Tour Participant**

540-822-4577 [bubbasays2@aol.com](mailto:bubbasays2@aol.com)



request to [bubbasays2@aol.com](mailto:bubbasays2@aol.com)

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P.O. Box 4366  
Leesburg, Virginia 20177

EQUINE RESCUE LEAGUE

Humanely helping and healing equines since 1990.