

Forever Morgans Newsletter, July 2014

New Rescues

FM took in five horses in July.

1. **Micha's Spirit Flame** (1989 chestnut mare) went through the Eugene Oregon auction in May. Flame is a sweet, gentle mare with nice manners who is good for the vet and farrier. FM has talked to her former owners and learned that Flame has done all sorts of activities -- 4-H, beach rides, trails, bareback and more -- and is a wonderful with kids, very gentle and careful. Flame's photo from the auction, taken in the pens before she went in the ring, showed children all over her including a girl sitting on the ground under her belly. Even in the chaotic, strange auction environment, she was calm and careful with the kids. Flame is a registered Morgan but is fairly petite, approximately 14 hands, and is healthy and sound. Flame is looking for a forever home where she can be loved by more children. She is currently fostered in Oregon.

2. **Merlin Worth the Waite** (2001 chestnut gelding) , known as Wyatt, was an Amish buggy horse who didn't like the big trucks on the road. His owner contacted FM instead of sending him to auction. He is sound, trained to ride and drive, and has a quiet personality. He is a bit standoffish and aloof, as is common with Amish horses, but is polite and well-behaved. Wyatt is pending transport to foster in early July.

3. **Briarstead Suite Melody** (1997 chestnut mare) is one of three Morgans from the New Holland auction on 6/30/14. She is a big, solid mare and an absolute sweetheart. She was owned by a family whose children grew up and lost interest in horses, so the Morgans were sent to the auction. She is reported to be good with kids.

4. **Page Turner** (2002 bay gelding), also from the 6/30/14 New Holland suction, was an Amish buggy horse who is also trained to ride. His initial training was with a well-respected Mennonite horse trainer; he went through the Buckeye Sale as a 3-year old, where he was described as "Lots of motion and plenty of attitude. Cute & outstanding ... show prospect or a fancy buggy horse." FM talked to a former owner who said he is "a grand horse with a great work ethic." Page Turner does have pinfiring scars from a later owner. He is a nice horse, easy to work with, with no apparent issues.

5. **JBS Copper Penny** (1998 chestnut mare) was a last-minute save from New Holland. Penny is a tall mare, very gentle, with excellent manners. She was purchased by a kill buyer at the auction but he offered to sell the mare to FM afterwards (for a profit, of course). She is a big, plump mare and otherwise would have gotten on the truck directly to slaughter. FM talked to her former owner, an Amish farm wife who had Penny as her beloved primary buggy horse. She said that Penny was reliable and gentle with no issues, but her husband died and she had to sell several horses. She thought she had sold Penny to a good home. She is a full sister to prior FM rescue JBS Brandywine.

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 10 horses boarded as of the end of June. Four (Wyatt, Melody, Page Turner and Penny) are in quarantine, and five are boarded at the quarantine barn in Pennsylvania (Cindy's); board costs \$10 per day per horse. Gabby is boarded at a barn in Oregon at \$7 per day.

1-4. **Wyatt, Melody, Page Turner and Penny** are in quarantine. See notes in section above.

5. **Charm** (Relentless Charm, 1993 bay mare, rescued May 2014) has completed quarantine. She is a sweet and easy mare with no problems and no bad habits, healthy, happy and easy to work with. She remembers being a show horse and would be fun to take back into the ring for some light showing either under saddle or driving.

6. **April Fern** (2003 brown mare, rescued May 2014) has also finished quarantine. She was initially a bit aloof, but has relaxed and become super sweet with no issues. She is wonderful with other horses, a "peacekeeper" who seems to be a calming influence on any horse she is with. She rides, drives, and has the look and breeding to be an excellent sporthorse.

7. **Noble Rose** (PMM Jestures Noble Rose, 1991 dark bay mare, rescued 12/3/12) needs a foster or forever home that can continue to work with her.

8. **LV Blaze** (Locust Valley Blaze, 1995 chestnut gelding, rescued 1/22/13) continues to have intermittent lameness.

9. **Alusive** (WYP Alusive, 1995 chestnut gelding, rescued 10/19/13) has been comfortable without daily pain meds for several weeks. The severe swelling in his legs has gone down and he can briefly trot in the pasture and has even been seen to canter a little without lameness. Although he can never be ridden or driven, he should be able to be a pasture pet and able to go on a long trip (i.e. to a foster or adoptive home) with some Banamine. He is friendly with people and does well with other horses.

10. **Gabby** (2001 chestnut mare, rescued 4/13/14) was DNA tested in hopes of registering her, but there were no matches. The note with Gabby at the auction said that she was able to be registered (i.e. both her parents were registered); due to her age, it is possible that her parents are registered but do not have DNA on file. Gabby's adopter may be able to determine her parentage with additional research. Even without registration papers, Gabby is a fun, nicely-trained little mare who would be great for 4-H, OHSET and trail rides! Gabby is boarded in Oregon.

Horses transported to foster:

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

1. **Stowaway** (Keepsake's Stowaway, 2008 chestnut gelding, rescued 3/24/14) went to his breeder for foster. His dam was sold when pregnant, so his breeder had never seen him and is happy to have him "home" for a little while. She says that he is a "very cool horse", extremely friendly, smart, and should be easy to train. Keepsake Stables is dispersing all of their stock so is unable to adopt Stowaway, but is hoping to find the perfect home for this flashy boy.

Horses in foster homes:

There are currently 27 horses in foster homes: Cora (CA), Chester (DE), Magnum & JRC Blaze (FL), Edison (ID), GG, Jake, Thumbelina & Mitsey (IL), Black Lady (KS), Stowaway (MO), Steppin, Showy, Jess, Reva & Glory (NY), Ally, Sierra, Reflection & Jax (OK), Flame & Lacy (OR), Sailor (TN), Star & Song (TX), Joy (NC) and Valor (WA). (Horses in the same state may be in separate foster homes.)

- **Chester** (1990 grade chestnut gelding, rehome 11/3/13) is still looking for a forever home. He is sweet, willing, jumps, and loves to do arena work. He would be a fantastic lesson horse! Chester is fostered in Delaware.
- **Reva** (Runnymede's Revision, 1993 chestnut mare, rescued 2/10/13) is enjoying the summer weather at her foster home in New York. She is a sweet and lovable mare who is very easy to get along with. She does take a rider but is not a fan of exercise and prefers to just be admired for her beauty, preferably while posing in (and tasting) a field of green grass. Her current foster home can only keep her until mid-August, so Reva needs a new foster or forever home soon.
- **Magnum** (Rosedust Forty Four Magnum, 2000 bay gelding, rescued 10/12/13) was an Amish driving horse, so his foster home harnessed and hooked him up once to see how he did. He accepted being hooked but then refused to move and very emphatically did not want to drive. He was quite happy to be ridden afterwards; he is currently being ridden by advanced beginners and intermediate riders and is charming the students at his foster's barn.

Adoptions

1. **Rio's Night Time** (2003 bay gelding, rescued 5/11/14) went home with his adopter in early June. She is thrilled to have him home and is working on improving his weight and getting the shine back in his coat.

2. **Moonshine** (2012 colt, rescued in utero 8/27/11) was an unexpected foal born to the chestnut mare JBS Brandywine. Brandy's adopter did a wonderful job with Moonshine's initial training and manners, but wasn't up to training him further and didn't need a colt. A nearby teenager met Moonshine and fell in love. She is currently training Moonshine as a 4-H 2-year old futurity project and plans to do trail, shows and other activities. She is working with a nearby Morgan trainer who has known Moonshine since he was a foal and is eager to work with him. The FM contract allows for adopted horses to be sold or transferred with approval.

New Colt

Showy Lady's Shipper (2002 chestnut mare, rescued 8/17/13) gave birth to a good-sized chestnut colt on 6/16/14. The colt is being called Jess because he -- along with Showy & her 2013 filly -- were rescued

in honor of Jessica Rekos, a victim of the Sandy Hook tragedy. Showy had a foal at her side (FMRescue Twice a Lady, 2013 chestnut filly) when rescued and had been bred back to the same sire, the registered black Morgan stallion A & R Lady's PAS Flint. Showy's back-to-back pregnancies were hard on her bowed tendons, especially as her due date neared. Showy and her colt are fostered in New York and are available for adoption.

New Board Member

Danny Collins has joined the FM Board. A committed volunteer, Danny has been an outstanding foster home, a dedicated volunteer, and a compassionate adopter.

Born and raised in Germany, Danny apprenticed under Prince Ludwig of Bavaria in horse husbandry and breeding. She obtained her training licenses afterwards and is an advocate of classical dressage, keeping training enjoyable and horses motivated. She became involved with Morgans and moved to a lovely remote hill in Tennessee four years ago, where she and her husband currently have four stallions, two geldings and two FM fosters. Danny is also involved in dog rescue and enjoys reading and jigsaw puzzles in her spare time.

Summer Sale

The Forever Morgans Summer Sale is on! For a limited time, adoption fees are reduced to \$350 for Rose Valley Reflection, Blossoms Thumbelina, Runnymede's Revision, Wachuset Hope and Mitsey!

- Reflection (Rose Valley Reflection, 1992 chestnut mare, rescued 10/7/13, fostered in Oklahoma) is a Funquest-bred broodmare
- Thumbelina (Blossoms Thumbelina, 1992 bay mare, rescued 10/19/13, fostered in Illinois) was a devoted Amish buggy and riding horse who is great with kids
- Reva (Runnymede's Revision, 1993 chestnut mare, rescued 2/10/13, fostered in New York) is a kind and lovely mare who is a joy to be around
- Cora (Wachuset Hope, 1989 bay mare, rescued 8/31/12, fostered in California) is a wonderful babysitter and adores kids
- Mitsey (Mitsey, 2009 black mare, rescued 8/22/12, fostered in Illinois) is a pretty and timid mare who is learning to trust

There are also several horses that have adoption fees of only \$300.

- Wata Diamond Star (2009 brown gelding, fostered in Texas)
- MLF Sudden Glory (1995 chestnut gelding, fostered in New York)
- Little Man Cowboy Quarter Horse (known as Edison, AQHA 2000 bay gelding, fostered in Idaho)
- Wheatland Lacy (1992 chestnut mare, fostered in Oregon)
- Chester (1990 grade chestnut gelding, fostered in Delaware)
- Crestfield Double Joy (1997 bay mare, fostered in North Carolina)

FM has several Special Needs horses whose adoption fees will be waived on the condition that the contract between the adopter and FM is amended to include specific agreements about future treatments and training. Noble Rose, LV Blaze, Alusive and Song are all looking for a special home.

Rainbow Bridge

Carreg Wen Holly's adopter sadly reported that this grand old mare passed away on June 10, 2014. Holly, a 1986 registered bay mare, was rescued in February 2011 through AC4H. A former Grand Nationals winner and the dam of several winning show horses, she was something special and she knew it. She enjoyed a quiet retirement in a loving home with green grass, good companions, and many admirers who will miss her.

Fosters Needed

Foster homes desperately needed! Can you open your heart and barn to a horse that needs you? Forever Morgans is looking for foster homes for horses throughout the country, including both recent rescues and horses that need to be rehomed. Please consider helping a rescue horse on its way to finding a forever home! FM pays for transport and extraordinary vet expenses. Fosters provide food, shelter, farrier, and ordinary vet care (these expenditures are considered a donation for tax purposes) and share updates about the horse and its progress. Prior fosters and adopters are pre-approved to foster! Foster expenses are considered a donation for tax deduction purposes. See <http://forevermorgans.org/foster.htm> for more information and an application.

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 - 4 adopt, 1 foster
- Foster Follow Up Committee : Danny Collins, Chair – Updates requested
- Breeders/Owners Prior Record Call Back Committee : Danny Collins, Chair - Danny talked to prior owners.
- Fundraising : Ginny Bloss, Chair – No report.
- New Fosters/Prospective Adopters : Janice Scotto, Chair - No report.
- Publicity Committee: Sierra Nash, Chair -- No report.
- Rescue Me/Camelot : Christina Friedian, Chair - No report.
- Therapeutic Riding Programs : Heather Rodriguez, Chair - No report.
- Transport : Jami Sacks, Chair - Jami has arranged transports and gotten quotes for horses going to foster.
- Transportation Fund: Martha Cather, Chair – No report.

Expenses

Partial list of expenses, this does not include all miscellaneous and vet expenses. Transport for Stowaway and Flame was donated.

\$1750.00	PA QT/board (Alusive, April Fern, Charm, LV Blaze, Melody, Noble Rose, Page Turner, Penny, Wyatt)
\$250.00	NY QT/board (Steppin)
\$196.00	OR board (Gabby)
\$300.00	private purchase, Micha's Spirit Flame (donated back to FM) 6/16/14
\$350.00	private purchase, Merlin Worth the Waite ("Wyatt") 6/19/14
\$50.00	transport to pick up Wyatt 6/19/14
\$50.00	auction attendance
\$300.00	auction purchase, Page Turner 6/30/14
\$22.00	Coggins, Page Turner 6/30/14
\$475.00	auction purchase, Briarstead Suite Melody 6/30/14
\$22.00	Coggins, Briarstead Suite Melody 6/30/14
\$62.93	auction office fees 6/30/14
\$500.00	broker purchase at auction, JBS Copper Penny 6/30/14
\$22.00	Coggins, JBS Copper Penny 6/30/14
\$70.00	farrier (Alusive and Wyatt)
\$215.77	vet (April Fern, Charm, Wyatt)
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\$4635.70	total

Rocky's Transformation

Rocky Illuminator was a tired, skinny and scared Amish buggy horse when he was rescued from a kill broker in September 2013. He didn't know how to ride or trust people, but there was a softness behind his eyes that drew in his adopter. His new home won his heart and his trust as he blossomed into a stunning black gelding who was eager to please.

In June, just nine months after being rescued, his adopter decided to take him to a show just to look around while she was showing her other horses. Rocky had only been in a trailer a few times in his life and each time it was to go to a new home, so when they loaded him to go to the show he thought he was being sent away. He was heartbroken and trembling. So they unloaded him, reassured him, and waited to take him to the show the next day. Once at the showgrounds, Rocky was cool and confident, doing so well riding in the warm-up ring that she entered him in some classes just to give him the experience -- and they won the Morgan English Pleasure Championship! Rocky loved the show ring and won a slew of admirers with his enthusiasm and style, proving to everyone that love and care can transform a rescue into a champion.