



December 2018

My Lessons From Pisgah, NC

I've come so far....but I wish I could go back. Looking back at my decade of AGES ~ There is so much to be thankful for and this is the moment that I finally *take the time* to see it all. Reflection is not easy for me, being busy is much more comfortable. I cannot know where I am going however, unless I look back ~ reflect on where I've been and seek the path ahead of me. I do know the path ahead of me...is much shorter than the one behind.



It was September 2005. I was recovering from a twenty year marriage and divorce. I had come to a point in my life where, for the first time ever ~ I sought a future and a goal. I was *READY* for my journey to me....to begin! My life was blessed at this time with a wide circle of menopausal women who mentored me, gave me strength of mind and soul, and loved me unconditionally until I could finally love myself. They coerced me to join them on an adventure to the Pisgah National Forest on an Outward Bound experience! Seeing as how I was the youngest out of 12 women...I thought I had this "in the bag" no problemo!! I could hike. I could carry a full (55lb) backpack for miles...right?? I could spend 8 days in the wilderness to reach the mountain peak at some 7000 feet right? Absolutely! That week was the most physically draining, exhaustive, excruciatingly pain filled and *joyous* experience of my life. The lessons I gleaned that gorgeous week in the fall of '05 carry me even still today. During evening dinner talks, I shared my dream of rescuing horses. It was what I felt I was destined to do with my life. I had the conviction, the passion, the Irish determination ~ but not so much the courage, the belief in myself to pull it off, or the fiscal reality needed to bring it to fruition.

The days hiking that mountain were literally pure hell. It broke me. It made me scream. It made me frustrated, furious, and constantly asking myself "what the hell am I doing here?" Get me the hell out!! The blisters, aching back, leg, and arm muscles. The lack of sleep...the bugs...all contributed to my misery. I *KNEW* I would die....just let me lay down and get it over already!! But the leaders kept on our heels...like a pack of dogs. I hated it and I loved it. I had never in my life pushed myself not only past my physical and emotional limits...but even miles past that! What did I learn? Much. I learned so much. But the biggest gift I received was the knowledge, the confidence, and the belief that I was so much stronger than I knew! That I could do whatever I chose to do with my life and future! And most importantly that I have so much more strength inside me than I was ever aware of. The limits I put on myself were so minor, so confining and short sighted. I never knew until we reached the summit ~ how very strong I am, and always was. I was one hundred times stronger than I ever imagined. I believed in myself for the first time really ever.

That last night at camp, I *declared* my intentions to my women's group. I put out into the universe that I would indeed...create a horse rescue and fulfill my dream! Once "out there" I could not take it back! Once "out there" it became my truth! My soul and my entire being knew I would succeed.

October 2018

I found a note given by an owner of our beloved Miss U stating to please love and take care of her forever. It was dated October 5th, 2008. She came into my life and started my "rescue" a decade before. Faith. Belief. Trust. That gave me the wherewithal to begin. The love, support and trust in all of you ~ gave me the strength to continue everyday despite some really rocky waves over the years. AGES can claim almost 200 souls saved by our tribe of beloved donors, volunteers, and staff. It is and has been a huge undertaking. One I would never trade for anything other. I have been blessed beyond measure. I have been to the mountaintop. I have seen the glory of the earth. I am humbled beyond words to express my gratitude to each and every one of you that have helped AGES along the way!

Today I know where I've been. I know where I am. I am contemplating my future. I hope you all still want to come along for the ride! I ain't done yet! We still have work to do....so many lives to save....please remain vital to our mission. If I can...anyone can.

When you are doubtful...pretend to be certain until you are. When you are afraid...pretend to be brave until you are. When you don't want to take that leap....scream at the top of your lungs, hang on, and do it anyway....AGES looks forward to the new year and the new decade! Thanks for listening.

Erin

2018 Adoptions—



Chip



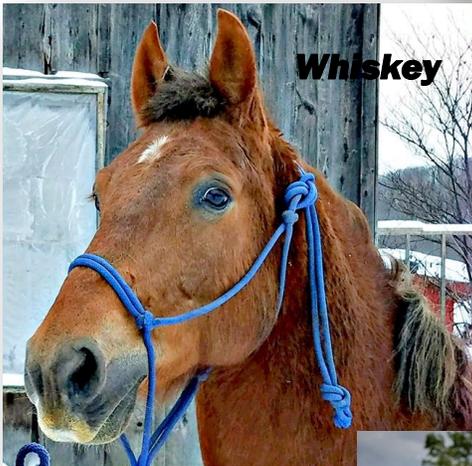
Tater



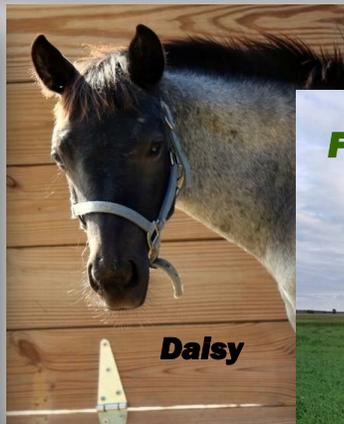
Tobie



Earl Bay



Whiskey



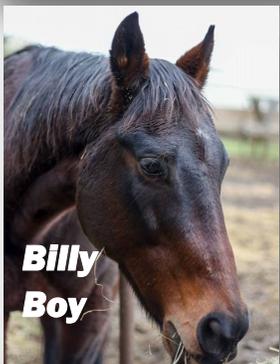
Daisy



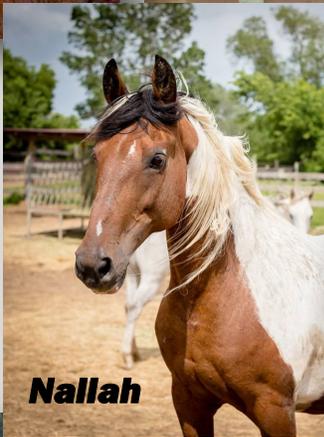
Faith



Sally



Billy Boy



Nallah



Primo



Juna



Hero



Senna



Candy

These Horses Found Forever Homes in 2018!



Farthing



Grayce



C.C.



Franki



**Big
Sur**



Terry



Hope



Mercedes



Frisco



Rudy



**Windy
Joe**



Remy



Star



Ellie



Georgia



W4985 County Trunk FF
Elkhart Lake, WI 53020
262.627.0582
Www.rescuehorses.org
agesrescue@gmail.com



Place
Postage
Here

About Us

We are a 501 (c) (3) organization, so donations qualify as tax deductions. Our sole purpose is to offer a safe haven for unwanted, abused or neglected horses: shelter, nutrition, vet and farrier care, and most importantly - unconditional love and attention. Amazing Grace Equine Sanctuary provides services to surrendered horses regardless of the previous owners' circumstances.



Current Adoptables

Adoption applications can be downloaded from our website at: www.rescuehorses.org



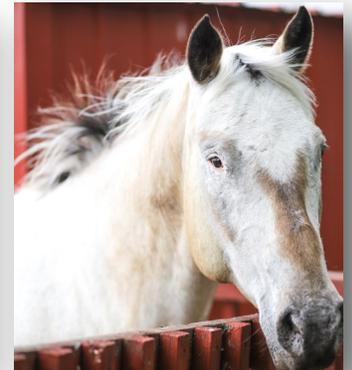
HOLLY is a bay, Quarter Horse mare; she is 22 years old, standing 15HH. Holly was cart-trained many years ago but as far as we know, was never used as a riding horse; we have since saddled and rode her at AGES, and she has done well though still green. She has come a long way with trusting people and is looking for a forever home to be loved and spoiled in.



RICK is a bay Standardbred gelding, 16 years-old, standing approximately 15.2HH. Rick has scars from pin-firing in his front left leg, as well as severe ring-bone (arthritis) in his pastern joint. He is also unable to vocalize due to a "tie-back" procedure. Rick is adoptable; however is not sound for riding. He would make an excellent teacher horse for children (grooming, etc.) and would fit in beautifully in a non-riding therapy program!



LYLA - 14-year-old Quarter Horse Cross Mare standing 14.2 hh - a perfect height for just about anyone! She is sweet, quiet, and very laid-back. She is good with her feet and behaves for the vet and farrier. Middle pecking order in the herd, stands tied well for grooming and saddling. She is on the slow and quiet side, and prefers walk/trot. Lyla has an smooth little jog that is easy to sit. She stops and backs up well. She would make a great little trail horse! She has an awesome attitude - very tolerant and agreeable. Potential to be a great youth horse!



MAGGIE is a blind strawberry/grey Appaloosa mare. She stands 15HH. She was pulled from a kill lot in Oklahoma. Maggie is a sweet, kind girl that loves attention. Her lack of sight can make her nervous in new settings, but we have faith in her ability to blossom into a wonderful partner for a committed adopter! Maggie's fee is \$500.