

# THE HORSE'S VOICE

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Have you heard the starfish story?

One day a young boy was standing on a beach on which thousands of starfish had washed ashore. He was tossing them, one-by-one back into the water.

A man walked up to him and asked what he was doing. The young boy said; "I am saving the starfish." The man said; "There are so many starfish on the beach. How could throwing them back possibly be making a difference?"

The young boy leaned down and tossed another starfish into the water and replied; "It made a difference to that one."

*author unknown*

**By saving the life of one horse, we may not be changing the world, but we are changing the world for that one horse.**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Edward Mrozik, Jr.—President  
Nancy Van Wie—Vice President  
Susan Kastan—Secretary

At this holiday time, many pause to reflect on those things for which they are grateful. Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue, Inc. is entering its third year, and we are grateful for people like you, whose generosity makes it possible for us to save equine lives and change the lives of children, adults and those with special needs through our education and outreach programs.

Through this newsletter, we'll share success stories to show how your tax-deductible contribution is put to work. As a 100% volunteer organization with no paid staff, we can put 96 cents of every dollar donated directly to the care of the animals. The use of our personal farm, facility and vehicles keeps our operating costs low. The help of kind hearts and generous spirits, like you, allows us to give these amazing animals the care that they deserve.



Rainbow over Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue, Inc.

Here are some highlights from another great year:

- We relocated to Westport, New York, in March, 2005. Doubling the size of our farm increased the capacity of horses we can save.
- One of our youth volunteers, Cheyenne Dickinson received the Citizenship Volunteer Award from her school for her work on our farm.
- Our youngest volunteer, Frances Eisinger, competed

in her first horse show with Pelham Bay (page 2).

- Beau and Pop-eye, two of our rescues, took championship and first place ribbons this show season (page 2).
- We hosted a job-shadowing program and field trips to teach kindness and compassion for the Westport Schools (below).

The ultimate in selfless generosity touched our hearts several times this year when we received envelopes packed with checks for Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue, Inc. wrapped in a kind note. Each note had a similar message; that a young person asked that in lieu of birthday presents, the greatest gift would be if their friends and family made gifts to our program in their honor to help horses in need.

There is so much for which we are thankful. Your support makes it all possible. Every gift counts. Every gift matters. Thank you.

## THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT

This Spring, we participated in Westport High School's job shadowing program, part of the school's career development curriculum.

Freshman Carlie Vaughan chose our program because she is committed to a career with

equines. The program required that Carlie submit a resume and cover letter, then spend a day working side-by-side with us to learn the day-to-day responsibilities, skills and education requirements to run a rescue program.

Spending the day with Carlie was a gift. Her energy, enthusiasm, positive attitude and deep love for horses are contagious.

Our youth are our hope for the future. The future looks bright. Thanks, Carlie.



Hannah Peabody, Frances Eisinger, Nancy and Pelham Bay.

## PARTNERSHIP OF CHAMPIONS

Frances Eisinger, our youngest volunteer has been working at Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue, Inc. since 2003. She helps with horse care, events, farm chores, and is a star at cleaning tack. Last year, Frances wowed the crowd at one of our natural horsemanship clinics when she and Eddie partnered with Triple Saucy, a 15-year old off-the-track thoroughbred to show everyone that it doesn't matter how big or how old you are, if you look inside of a horse instead of at him and understand that he has emotions and sensitivity just like you and me, you can create a relationship based on trust, respect and harmony. At one point during the clinic, the clinician said he should just let Frances lead the show!

This summer we were equally proud, when Frances and Pelham Bay, one of our permanent residents who came to us because his owner was too sick to care for him, joined up for the Essex County Fair. It was Frances's first show and Pelham's first time back in a ring in more than 4 years. As you can see by the flowers and the radiant smiles, Frances and Pelham were champions that day.

Pelham has a respect for Frances and all children, like Hannah Peabody (also featured in the photo), that goes beyond love. Frances worked with Pelham for weeks before the show. Some days the bugs and heat were so bad that he just wasn't up for working. So, Frances and Nancy just spent time letting him know it was ok to feel yucky and he didn't have to work. Since we gave in to his needs during training, he gave 150% when he was feeling good.

A week before the show, Nancy took him to the fairgrounds to get him accustomed to the hustle and bustle, the rides and the commotion. When he backed off the trailer he was nervous and excited. Nancy calmed him in the pouring rain, let him walk around and brought him home. All that week, Nancy told him this was for Frances. On the day of the show, when he backed off the trailer and saw Frances, Hannah and all of his other favorite young friends, Pelham knew why he was there. He went to Frances and lifted her up, and the two not only aimed for the stars, they were stars.

## MORE SHOW STOPPERS



Band of Heroes—"Beau" - Beau is a 4 year old off-the-track thoroughbred who was donated to us after two bowed tendons ended his racing career. After 14 months of rehabilitation, Beau was ready for his new life. This is Beau with his new mom taking Champion in a western pleasure show this May. Beau also took first place in the halter class with Stacey's young son, JD aboard.



My Man Popeye—Popeye was rescued from abuse and neglect. Afraid of people and emaciated when he first came to the farm, Popeye stole our hearts. This show season Popeye took his first blue ribbon in Command class, second in Pleasure, fifth in Equitation and sixth in Western Model. Mary says he "questioned everything but did it all for me. I am so happy he is with us." Congratulations Popeye and Mary!!! We're proud of you.

## THE SAD SIDE OF OUR WORK



Cruelty case—2 year old standardbred locked in an 8x8 stall for nearly a year with occasional food, water and minimal hoof care.



Over the rainbow bridge—Beavis is one of 6 horses who had to be humanely euthanized. The oldest was 14. The youngest was 4.



Lack of knowledge—this 15 year old's owners had good intentions to take care of this boy and his injuries, but didn't have the knowledge.



Cruelty case—3 year old standardbred gelding surrendered during cruelty case. This is AFTER he gained about 100 pounds.



Neglect—this half-starved stallion required 4 days of intravenous fluids. Tragically, years of neglect won and we lost him in surgery.



Neglect—this 4 year old thoroughbred was malnourished, wormy, had cracked and curled hooves, and was covered in untreated sores.

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Gail Guenther

*Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue, Inc. is dedicated to giving abused, neglected, abandoned, and slaughter-bound horses a second-chance at life by providing shelter, care, emotional and physical rehabilitation, and adoption services to qualified and approved homes. To prevent abuse and neglect, Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue, Inc., through educational programs and on-site visits, will teach responsibility, kindness, patience, and overall good animal husbandry.*

## WE NEED A HOME

Chatter (right) —Chatter is a 13-year old, registered Arabian mare who was donated to our program when a caring owner became critically ill and could no longer care for her. She and her lifelong friend, Hobo, need a forever home, together.

Hobo (below) - Hobo is a 24-year old quarterhorse gelding. He's in excellent condition and has lots of years ahead of him to be loved.



If you are interested in adopting a horse, please visit our website at [www.cmvhr.org](http://www.cmvhr.org) or contact us via e-mail at [horses@cmvhr.org](mailto:horses@cmvhr.org) or by phone at 518-962-8512.

Since opening our doors in 2003, we've placed more than 50 horses in adoptive homes. Our adoptive parents have discovered the magic of making an equine friend for life. Won't you open your heart to a horse in need?

## A LABOR OF LOVE

Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue, Inc. operates through tax-deductible contributions from people with kind hearts and generous spirits—people like you. We are 100% volunteer. We have no paid staff, and our administrative expenses are less than 4%, meaning that 96 cents of your tax-deductible donation goes directly to the care of the animals.

We operate the rescue from our farm to keep our operating expenses low. The facility, vehicles, and farm equipment belong to us. We write the newsletters, update the website, handle phone calls, respond to e-mails, tend to horse care, coordinate events and volunteers — all as a labor of love. We haven't taken a vacation in six years.

There are no holidays and no sick days on a farm. It's 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

We do it for the horses. We do it for the kids. We do it for the community. We do it to make this world a better place.

A gift to our annual operating fund enables us to:

- save the lives of horses in need
- host field trips for the local schools and youth organizations to teach kindness and compassion, and the proper care and treatment of the animals
- offer internships and externships to high school and college students to earn credit for studies in equine management and veterinary science
- offer educational workshops that demonstrate the correlation between animal abuse and domestic violence to stop the perpetuation of abuse to all living beings
- build self-confidence and esteem in disabled adults

All of these programs are offered as a community service, at no charge. **Please make your tax-deductible contribution today.** We can't do what we do without your generous support.