

**SUMMER 2015**

# NEIGHSAVER

**YOUR SEASONAL  
EQUAMORE FOUNDATION  
NEWSLETTER**



**EQUAMORE  
FOUNDATION**

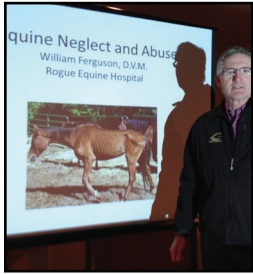


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# EQUAMORE NEWS



**What a Party...** On May 2nd we held our first "Beyond the Finish Line" party to celebrate the 24th anniversary of the Equamore Foundation and the third anniversary of the Foundation owning the Sanctuary property. Our guests had a wonderful time enjoying the food, music, our horses, and of course, mint juleps all to help raise money for the care of the horses of Equamore. Thank you to our guests and volunteers, and a special shout out to our sponsors: Crater Animal Clinic, Marya Hect, Sue Lawrence, Noel Leslie Event Services, Nancy Ball & JW Lyon, Diane Pace & William Swartz MD, Pascal Winery, and Anne Worden.



**Equamore Academy Class for Law Enforcement...** In February we held a class taught by our veterinarian, Dr. William Ferguson, for local sheriff's deputies on how to recognize horse abuse and neglect and what to do about it. In Jackson County, Oregon, the Sheriff's Department is responsible for enforcement of laws against horse abuse and neglect, rather than a specially trained animal control organization. By providing training for the deputies, Equamore is helping them to help more horses.

## A New Blog and a Chance to Share Your Own Rescue Story...

The Equamore Foundation web site has added a new blog DUGAN'S BLOG which highlights the success of rescue efforts of all animals, including the horses who graze our fields and the dogs, cats, birds, etc. who live with our horses at Equamore Sanctuary. Check it out at [www.equamore.org/category/dugans-blog](http://www.equamore.org/category/dugans-blog).



DUGAN'S BLOG is dedicated to the irreplaceable Jack Russell Terrier who decided that Linda Davis and Eden Farm needed his watchful presence. For almost fifteen years Dugan welcomed visitors and supervised activities at his adopted home. His story is the first of the blog posts that document animals other than horses rescued by Equamore employees and friends. Dugan's Blog encourages all our friends to submit their stories of animal rescue for publication. Refer to [www.equamore.org/dugans-page](http://www.equamore.org/dugans-page) to see how to submit your blog posts for possible publication.



## PTSD IN HORSES

Of all the human psychological disorders, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) can be the most difficult to treat. People who have experienced severe stress are likely to suffer its aftermath throughout their lifetimes, even after long-term counseling. It's the same, perhaps worse, for animals who have experienced cruelty, neglect, or abandonment. There is no way to "counsel" them or to teach them coping strategies.

Stress disorders in horses, as they do in humans, manifest themselves in many ways. Some horses become "barn sour," experiencing anxiety when forced to leave a secure environment. Others become overly fearful and therefore dangerous in their need to flee or fight their handlers. Some simply give up, showing their suffering only in the dullness of their eyes. Many Equamore horses exhibit these signs of the intense stress they endured before being rescued.

Our staff and volunteers know the symptoms and devise ways to allow psychologically damaged horses to recover as much as they can by providing the security of familiar surroundings and herd life. That is one of the reasons why Equamore Foundation insists that the journey to our Sanctuary after rescue will be the last time a rescued horse will lose its home and herd. And that is why a new series of blog posts, called "Equamore Horses Beyond the Finish Line," is being published at [www.equamore.org/beyond-the-finish-line](http://www.equamore.org/beyond-the-finish-line). Log on to our web site to experience what it's like for horses who suffer from this condition.

# FEATURED HORSE

## GANDALF



**At Rescue**



**Gandalf Now**



**Calmly Grazing**

Gandalf lived the first seven years of his life confined in a pasture with other feral Percherons, including other stallions, fighting for everything he had in life. He arrived at the Equamore Sanctuary terrified, with his body covered with scars and open wounds from altercations with the other horses. After gelding and healing from his wounds, the first step to Gandalf's recovery was to integrate him into the Sanctuary gelding herd. There Gandalf was able to be with other horses in a natural environment, with friends instead of competitors, playing instead of fighting. Gandalf quickly became close buddies with Mowen, his next door neighbor in the barn, and Joe. He is frequently seen racing through the pasture with these two and stirring up fun among the other horses.

At the beginning of last summer, one volunteer took special interest in this beautiful boy, and started working with him consistently. Now when he hears a noise that he can't identify, he pauses to investigate instead of jumping in fright. He absolutely loves being groomed and will stand calmly and well-mannered in the cross ties. He learned quickly to pick up his dinner plate-sized feet for cleaning and trimming, allowing his wildly overgrown hooves to be taken care of for the first time in his life.

The next step was to start training him under saddle. Gandalf surpassed all expectations. He rarely has to be taught a lesson more than once. The addition of a bridle didn't faze him, and a saddle followed soon after. Gandalf took the saddle as if he had been born with one, not even flinching the first time the girth was tightened.

With Gandalf so calmly accepting of everything, the next step came quite easily. One day he was being lead up to just stand next to a mounting block for the first time, and a few days later, a volunteer was on his back. Even that first time, Gandalf seemed quite content. After taking a few steps, he turned his neck around to look his new rider in the eyes, nuzzle her boot, and then pose for a photo op.

Gandalf has gone from a feral and fearful stallion to a calm and loving ambassador for the power of healing at Equamore Sanctuary. His journey continues!

# BE ONE OF A THOUSAND-BUY-A-BALE



## Did you know?

**Our horses consume 17 tons of feed per month:**

- 10 tons of grass hay and
- 7 tons of alfalfa and special feeds

An average horse eats feed equal to about 2% of its body weight **daily**.

One 140 pound bale feeds an average horse for one week.

Hay currently costs from \$300 to \$350 per ton.

**1000 Buy-A-Bale Members pledging \$20 per month would pay all of our basic expenses** (feed, vets, farriers, medicines, payroll, utilities, etc.)!!!

See how easy it is to become "One of a Thousand" via our website at [www.equamore.org/buy-a-bale-of-hay](http://www.equamore.org/buy-a-bale-of-hay).



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2015

Artists for Equamore:  
Art Show and Sale  
May 31<sup>st</sup>

Summer Camp  
July 13<sup>th</sup> through July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015

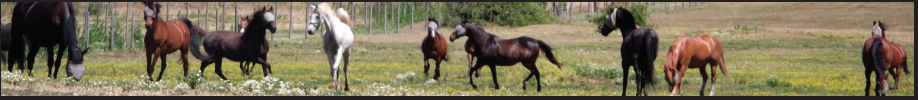
Big Barn Bazaar  
August 15<sup>th</sup>

Dressage Show and Open Barn Day  
August 22<sup>nd</sup>

Open Barn Year-End Celebrations  
December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and  
December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015

All events held at:  
Equamore Sanctuary  
4723 Highway 66  
Ashland, OR 97520





## WHY SANCTUARY?

Wishes is a beautiful and sweet mustang mare rescued in 2012. Wishes is blind. We do not know her very early history, except that Wishes was once a free horse captured in a mustang round up, losing her herd and her freedom. Wishes was also a trail horse until she lost her sight. She found her way to the Sanctuary via Shane, an elderly paint who was her guide horse for many years. At the Sanctuary, Wishes and Shane shared side-by-side stalls and spent time together in the indoor arena. Sadly, Shane died a mere six weeks after coming to the Sanctuary. For Wishes, integration into the mare field was not possible. Even though she has learned to use her acute sense of hearing to identify the presence of other horses and people, she cannot see the visual cues horses give that, without a proper response, may result in serious consequences.

About this same time, our lovely Thoroughbred Eddie went blind from an untreatable eye condition. In the safety of the indoor arena by day and their side-by-side stalls at night, Wishes and Eddie became friends. In response to their unique needs we created a special field for Wishes and Eddie. Using the sounds of Neil Creek on one side and traffic on Hwy 66 on the other side as well as the driveways at each end, the two have memorized the field's dimensions. They can be seen galloping, grazing, and grooming each other, all of the things sighted horses do! You can recognize Wishes by watching for a horse who stands with her head held high and proud, listening carefully to identify where you are by the sound of your voice. She is beautiful and strong and wonderful and will spend the rest of her life in her special field with Eddie at our Sanctuary.

This is why we provide sanctuary!!

BEAUTIFUL WISHES



WISHES AND EDDIE





## WAYS TO GIVE

- Make a One-Time Gift
- Make a Monthly Buy-a-Bale Pledge
- Sponsor a Horse
- Join a Horse's "Rescue Team" with a Monthly Pledge
- Contribute to our Endowment Fund\*
- Include Equamore in Your Estate Plan\*
- Donate Appreciated Stock\*

Call us at 541.482.5550, use PayPal at [equamore.org](http://equamore.org), or mail us.

\*Please call for details on our Endowment Fund, Estate Planning, and Donations of Stock.

donate to  
**Equamore**

