

Milestone Equine Rescue

Every horse we save makes a difference



MYLESTONE WORKS WITH SPCA ON CRUELTY CASES - MEET RED RUBY!

In early December of 2009, I was contacted for help by Agent Phil Amato from the NJ State SPCA. The owner of a hack stable in Warren County had pleaded guilty to cruelty and had to place many of his horses. Dr. Christina Watson and I went in freezing rain to evaluate the horses and draw coggins tests so they could be transported. The SPCA was not able to take in the horses, and relied on the help from Milestone in placing them. We wanted to make sure that the horses would not end up back at an auction where many of them had originally come from.

Once the process of placing the horses began, Agent Amato and I spent hours and hours over the next 30 days ensuring the horses would be placed in the most suitable homes. One of the horses, deemed extremely dangerous by the barn staff, was going to be a challenge to place. I contacted natural horsemanship trainer, Joe Williams from Gillette, and asked if he would evaluate the horse. He went out and worked with the gelding and within an hour saw great progress. This gelding was later placed in PA with another natural horsemanship trainer instead of facing euthanasia.

A couple of people who had known the horses expressed interest in wanting to adopt them. One of the other geldings was not in good shape, and was fortunate in going to a very devoted home close by. Another gelding succumbed to colic and had to be put down. A crippled mare ended up finding a wonderful home through Colleen, a friend of Milestone's. The mare is now treated like a queen in her new home with Jo Ann.

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Red Ruby has come along with trust issues and has recently been started back in training.

2010 "HERO TO ANIMALS" AWARD GIVEN TO SUSANKELLY THOMPSON

Milestone Equine Rescue's President and Founder Susankelly Thompson was honored with the 2010 "Hero to Animals" award from the Animal Welfare Federation of NJ on Sunday March 21st.

Susankelly was nominated for her work by the NJ State SPCA for her work in which she was given 30 days to place 8 horses from a cruelty case in Warren County. "Ensuring the horses got good homes was a collaborative effort," says

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A CHRISTMAS MIRACLE FOR JINGLE

It was late afternoon on Christmas Eve at an auction house in New Jersey. I spotted Jingle in the feed lot. He was quite lame, and there didn't seem to be much interest in him. Many of the other horses had already been purchased, and his lameness increased his chances of going to slaughter. So I paid his fees and bought him.

Two days later, my friend Colleen and I went down to the auction house to get him. We boarded Jingle at a local stable to quarantine him, as I didn't have the quarantine space at the farm. We unloaded him in the pouring rain by the light of my headlights. We had a small flashlight to find our way to the barn. Jingle was nervous, but was a good boy about the whole situation. Our vet came out to examine Jingle a few days later and was concerned with his lameness issues. We ended up X-raying his knees and found he has significant arthritis in his knees, especially his right front knee. His hooves were also very long, so on New Year's day our farrier, Gil, picked me up and we went out and trimmed his hooves.

On January 12th Jingle came to the farm. He was very nervous at first.

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I might not be able to dash through the snow, but I am doing much better, thanks to Milestone.

MY SIDE OF THE FENCE

- Susankelly Thompson

I wanted to touch on the slaughter issue in this newsletter. While it is illegal to slaughter horses in the U.S. for human consumption, horses still endure a long horrific transport to slaughterhouses in Mexico and Canada. Recent media attention states it is the fault of "anti-slaughter" proponents that we have horses starving, being left in the woods, on roads, etc. From our perspective, this is truly not the case.

We see more people giving up their horses due to hard economic times. People who never thought they would be faced with giving up their horses, have lost their jobs, their homes and more ... people who would never consider sending their horses to the auctions. A woman called me today asking us to take her mare that she has had for 16 years, as she can no longer afford to keep her. We hear these stories over and over again. You will always have those people who neglect their animals no matter what the economy, but the reality we see is of far more people having to give up their beloved "4 legged friends."

Many calls come in each and every week dealing with these types of situations. There is much talk of rescues being full, and many pro-slaughter people feel we aren't able to make a difference with the influx of unwanted horses. But just since the beginning of the year, Mylestone alone has been able to help 12 horses. In fact, we just placed a horse with the mayor of our town; he needed a companion horse for a rescue he adopted from us many years ago, after his horse's companion died.

I work tirelessly trying to give horse owners options, advice ... sometimes just a shoulder to cry on. I got a call this week about a pony and a horse whose owner fell on hard times and the horses weren't being cared for. Two women rescued the horse and pony but can't care for them long term. I met with Dr. Watson the very next day to evaluate the pony and horse in hopes of trying to find them homes.

People don't realize how much work goes on behind the scenes. Your support plays such an important role -- not only in helping us to care for the many rescue horses on the farm, but in reaching out to horse owners in need and preventing horses from going to slaughter. Your support allows us to reach out! Please donate to our efforts so we can continue to assist those who have nowhere to turn. Thank you!



Clyde is one of several Mylestone horses rescued from auction and possibly slaughter.

A MIRACLE FOR JINGLE (Cont'd.)



Despite being very afraid of certain things ... a dark stall, the hose, water and some men ... Jingle had been cared for. His weight was good, he is very friendly, and loves attention. His lameness problems have perplexed us because some days he is worse than others. Once he is moving around more he seems better, but he has difficulty turning. Yet if he plays too much he is worse. We would really like to inject his knees with artificial joint fluid and some steroids in hopes of improving his condition. Jingle really enjoys life. He loves the other horses. He currently goes out in a small area with a shed by my house so I can keep and eye on him.

Jingle is just so sweet, and hopefully we can make him more comfortable with his lameness issues. If you would like to help with the costs of getting Jingle's knees injected we need to raise about \$500.00. We would really like to be able to give him this chance.

Can you help?

IMPORTANT! Mylestone's e-mail address is now officially info@mylestone.org. We will soon be eliminating the old mer@eclipse.net, so if you have not changed to the new address, your e-mail will not go through. Please update your address book. Thank you. You will always, however, be able to e-mail us through the web site - www.mylestone.org under Contact Us.

MYLESTONE EQUINE RESCUE

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WWW.MYLESTONE.ORG

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HOURS OF OPERATION

By appointment only



OUR MISSION

Mylestone Equine Rescue ("M.E.R.") is dedicated to abused and neglected horses. M.E.R. works to educate the general public about these unspeakable sufferings and promotes the plight of unwanted horses.

Our goal is to place these once magnificent creatures in homes that will give them the love and care they deserve. If suitable homes are not found, M.E.R. will be a permanent home for these horses.

Mylestone is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

BUY MYLESTONE MERCHANDISE ON CAFEPRESS!



This handsome mousepad is one of many new items added regularly which will help support Milestone.

Many of you have expressed an interest in purchasing items with the Milestone logo or those which feature Milestone residents. While we always have a broad array of items to choose from at our events, it is only recently that we now have items available at CafePress!

From tee shirts and caps to mugs, from mousepads and tiles to journals, you'll find them all in the CafePress store. Please be sure to use the following link when you shop, as the prices are better than if you do a search from their home page:

http://www.cafepress.com/mer_nj

Thanks for stopping by and happy shopping!

PETFINDER CHALLENGE

Thanks to your votes, Milestone won \$2,000 in grant funding through the Petfinder-Animal Rescue Site Challenge. We won \$1,000 in the winter contest for the most votes in New Jersey and another \$1,000 for the most weekly votes for week 14!

The Petfinder folks are running these challenges regularly to help rescues and shelters with the funding they need to save lives. With your votes, we could win again! The web address is as follows, but you can always check on our web site where the contest is announced on our home page. Thanks for voting!

<http://www.theanimalrescuesite.com/clickToGive/shelterchallenge.faces?siteId=3>

BIRTHDAY THANK YOU

Three special girls shared their birthdays with the horses. In lieu of gifts for their birthdays, these girls helped Milestone's horses by collecting donations. Thank you to Isabella Scaglione, Shannon Rauter and Emily Bradley for celebrating your special day with our horses!

A LITTLES LESS SUNSHINE WITHOUT SUNNY

There's a little less sunshine in the world today ... sadly, our Sunny had to leave us. He was a bright eyed bit of sunshine who loved life.

Sunny came to us after being rescued in PA; he was thin and had Cushing's disease that wasn't managed well. He had severe arthritis in his neck and knees, but got around fairly well until the last few months. At that point, we started to see a steady decline. He had a harder time with his knees, and despite increasing his bute medication, he wasn't getting the relief he had in the past. Then he stopped eating some of his meals, and in the past few days, he stopped whinnying to all of us. He was ready to leave.

We put him down humanely, and Sunny died very peacefully. His best friend Ethan got to say "goodbye".

We will miss Sunny's constant nickering and his gentle ways. Because of this, he was the first horse for several of the volunteers to brush, and he was a beloved participant in our brushing program with the special needs students as well. Sunny was a sweet old soul, and will be missed by many.



MARGRIT NEEDS YOUR HELP

Margrit has been going through quite an ordeal lately and ended up being very sick. She had a green discharge coming from her right nostril with a very foul odor and was running a fever. Dr. Watson came out immediately to evaluate her and take X-rays.

This kind of infection can become very serious very quickly. Normally, Dr. Watson would have sent Margrit to an equine hospital, but unfortunately, that is not an option financially for the rescue, so we proceeded with intensive, on-site care. We started Margrit on antibiotics, and then, after consulting with a couple of other vets, Dr. Watson came back on that Thursday. She drilled a small hole into Margrit's sinus cavity, which had to be flushed twice a day for the next week, hoping to flush out the infection. Margrit had a tube coming out of her head and up the front of her face.

The following week, Bill Schultze and Brian Shaw, our equine dentists, met Dr. Mary Beth Hamorski at the farm to evaluate Margrit. They were able to determine that there was a tooth fragment which was loose and another molar which was only held on by tissue. They removed both teeth. Margrit was sedated and was very good about the procedure.

When they were finished, Susankelly flushed her sinus cavity. The drain remained in place for several more days with twice daily flushing and continued antibiotics. We hoped these teeth were the cause of the infection and the issue would resolve.

If this weren't enough, Margrit developed stomach ulcers from stress and her antibiotics, so we changed her antibiotics to paste and started her on ulcer medication. She improved after the third day and started eating again, but excess mucous continues to be present.

Margrit continues to be an amazing patient through this ordeal. We are very grateful to Bill and Brian who donated their services to help Margrit, as well as for the intensive support of Dr. Hamorski and Dr. Watson.

Margrit, however, is still not out of the woods, and we can only hope that continued antibiotics will finally end her infection. As you can imagine, Margrit's vet bills have been very costly. Any contribution you can make towards Margrit's veterinary expenses would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.



SECOND SPCA CASE - ADELAIDE IS RESCUED



Adelaide is currently very thin, needing to gain 200 pounds. The X-ray at right above, shows the damage to her right front hoof and leg from years without farrier care. Please check our web site for updates on Adelaide's progress.

A few weeks ago, Agent Amato from the NJ State SPCA contacted Mylestone again for help with an animal hoarder in Hunterdon County. The owner had two horses along with many other animals -- dogs, cats, rabbits, chickens, turkeys and others.

The two horses had lived there for quite some time, and it was evident upon inspection with the SPCA and the police, that one mare had been seriously neglected. I removed her blanket which hid how skinny she truly was. However, not only was she starved, but she had badly deformed hooves from lack of farrier care. The mare with her was very dominant and was in better condition though she had problems with her hooves as well.

We went back with the vet for further evaluation a few days later. It was evident that the owner had serious problems. The horses lived in filth, without adequate shelter and food. I brought hay due to an impending snow storm, wanting to make sure the horses would have some food. We had to wait for the coggins tests to come back. The owner had agreed to give up the horses and we made plans to pick them up.

Colleen offered to trailer for us, and we were joined by Dr. Watson and a police officer. We headed to the farm where the owner signed over the horses. Considering the two mares hadn't been out of their small paddock for years, they walked right onto the trailer. A new home had already been found for the younger mare, and the older mare in poor condition, whom we named Adelaide, was coming to the farm.

Once unloaded, Adelaide was sedated by Dr. Watson for X-rays to determine the extent of the damage to her hooves and legs. Adelaide's left front and left hind hooves were deformed in such a way that she couldn't stand straight as seen in the X-ray. Our farrier Gil, came to work on Adelaide the next day. Adelaide was quite lame, but once he was finished trimming her hooves she definitely started walking with greater ease.

We really need donations to help with Adelaide's care. She needs to gain over 200 pounds and will need extensive farrier care over the next several months. Oftentimes, the horses from these types of cases require costly care as they recover. Please help us continue to provide that care.



SPCA CASES - MEET RED RUBY (Cont'd.)

Mylestone assisted Phil in placing two of the other horses. One younger mare's home fell through and she was left without a place to go. Mylestone stepped in and took Red Ruby; she is currently being boarded in PA in our foster home. She is very timid, but is coming around slowly. In time, we hope to have her adopted out.

This was truly a heroic effort with wonderful results thanks to everyone involved.

PENNIES FROM HEAVEN!

Your pennies and change add up quickly. We are collecting again in 2010 to help with the horses' medical expenses. Please give your spare change to MER!

HERO TO ANIMALS AWARD (Cont'd.)



NJ SPCA Agent Phil Amato with Mylestone Board Member Kelly Conklin who accepted the award on behalf of Susankelly, who was unable to attend.

Thompson, "and included the invaluable help of Dr. Christina Watson of Califon Animal Hospital, professional trainer Joe Williams from Gillette, Colleen McDonald from Oxford, Susan Chruico from PA and many others who stepped in to help these horses and give them a second chance." Mylestone is currently caring for one of the mares in offsite foster care with hopes of adopting her out.

This was Susankelly Thompson's second time receiving the "Hero to Animals" award from the AWFNJ. She received this honor back in 2002 for her dedication in helping Madeline, the pony with a broken leg, who was being offered for sale on the internet. Madeline is a current resident at Mylestone today, along with over 30 other rescue horses.

Susankelly recently worked with Agent Phil Amato from the

NJ State SPCA regarding an animal hoarder in Hunterdon County. Mylestone was able to place one of the mares directly into a new home, while the other mare has a long road to recovery. This mare, currently residing on the farm, is starved and has deformities to her hooves due to lack of farrier care for many years. Mylestone relies on public donations to care for the horses it takes in from these cruelty cases, and costs can accumulate very quickly in cases of severe neglect such as these. Thompson said "it was a real honor to receive this award, especially when you are doing work you love to do."

She also wished to thank her husband Bruce, her family, and all the dedicated board members, volunteers and supporters of Mylestone. Mylestone is NJ's oldest all breed horse rescue and has been helping horses for over 16 years. It is only with your wonderful support that Mylestone has been able to do so much for horses, and we share this honor with you, our donors and supporters.

COME TO OUR ANNUAL WINE TASTING



A guest samples one of the fine wines at the 2009 wine tasting.

A wonderful time is always had by all!

The Lloyd Family of Enchanted Woods Farm in Califon will once again be holding their annual wine tasting to benefit Mylestone Equine Rescue.

Plans are in the works, but an exact date has not yet been set, so please check our web site and join us for this fabulous event, hosted by our generous and caring supporters, the Lloyds.

THANK YOU!

- * Donors and Sponsors
- * Devoted Volunteers
- * Califon Animal Hospital
- * Bill Schultze * Brian Shaw
- Gil Meeker * Chris Penola

- * Liz Lynch
- * Julie Tanis
- * Mary Anne Janco
- * The Urban Family
- * Wedgewood Pharmacy

A special thank you to all those who donated supplies to Mylestone Equine Rescue:

- * The Lloyd Family
- * Geraldine Jacobs
- * Joanne Schwartz

If we have accidentally omitted anyone from our thank you list, please accept our apologies - we are so very grateful for all you do for the horses!

IN HONOR OF

- In Honor of Lois Commander from Joan Major
- In Honor of the Gildersleeve Family from the Frey Family
- In Honor of Debbie Drake, Lori Nuzzo and Breezy View Farm from Liz Hirky
- In Honor of all her horse loving friends from Aldene Osborne
- In Honor of Carole Sullivan from Stephen and Edith Perlman
- In Honor of our "family" at Red Tail Farm from Lois and Rich Rawson
- In Honor of Eli Dock from Joyce Soowal
- To Honor Gabriella Fenyohazi's Birthday from Joanne Calandra Motta
- In Honor of Patricia Peterson from Mary McKeon
- In Celebration of the 5th Birthday of Sara Scherlinder from Julie Glass
- To Honor Debra Wilkin's Birthday from Holly Cosgrove
- In Honor of Maris and Ronald Rosenberg from Karpas Strategies

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

Mylestone maintains a presence on Facebook, and invites our many wonderful donors, sponsors and friends to check in and see what's new. If you'd like to add your own photos of the horses or post comments, join as a Friend and be part of the community. Visit us at: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&gid=9976099742>

THANK YOU, HORSEMEN'S OUTLET!

Once again, this past November/December, Horsemen's Outlet organized a basket raffle during their big sale days. Customers were offered the opportunity to purchase tickets in hopes of winning one or more of their favorite baskets. There were many theme baskets, horse cleaning supplies, horse treats, artwork, jewelry and much more. We'd like to thank everyone for their generous donations towards this raffle and congratulate all the lucky winners! Shortly after this sale, we returned in January for the next big sale. Our merchandise table was stocked with sweatshirts, t-shirts, mugs, notecards - all displaying either the Mylestone logo or a photo of some of our rescue horses. Again, we'd like to thank everyone for their generous support, whether it was a basket, a purchase, or simply just stopping by to say hello and learn about Mylestone. A big thank you to Horsemen's Outlet for their never-ending support of Mylestone and to all of our volunteers who, tirelessly, helped man our merchandise table and sell raffle tickets.

Please be sure to visit Horsemen's Outlet for great equine products:

Horsemen's Outlet
37 Molasses Hill Road
Lebanon, NJ 08833
(877) 238-1200



SPONSORSHIP FORM

Sponsors are the life blood of Mylestone's efforts - we truly could not do it without you. To become a sponsor, forward this form with the sum of \$50.00 for 2 months or more for additional months, (see below), which will be applied towards the care of the Mylestone resident of your choice, or we can select the horse in the greatest need of sponsors. You can sponsor for two months or for as many additional months as you would like @ \$25.00 per month. You will receive a photo and sponsor letter monthly, updating you on the goings-on at the farm.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

Enclosed is \$ _____. I would like to become a sponsor for

Jingle Adelaide The horse in greatest need or _____ (name of horse) for: (check one)

2 months (\$50.00) 3 months (\$75.00)

6 months (\$150.00) one year (\$300.00)

I'd like to sponsor _____ monthly for _____ months

Send to:

Sponsorships

Mylestone Equine Rescue

227 Still Valley Road * Phillipsburg, NJ 08865 * (908) 995-9300

www.mylestone.org

Mylestone Equine Rescue is a non-profit 501(c)(3) not for profit charity.
Your gift is tax deductible

SPECIAL THANK YOU's

- * To Katherine Steenberg who donated 10% of her horse show winnings to help the horses
- * Thank you to Miss Kembel's 5th grade class who raised \$80 in change to help the horses!
- * Thank you to Dawn Pohl for remembering the horses
- * The Alexandria Equestrian Association
- * Long Valley Trail Association
- * Tewksbury Trail Association
- * Zion Lutheran Church of Oldwick
- * Riff Raff Riders - American Gold Wing Assoc.
PA Chapter R-Lehigh Valley
- * Barbara and Leith Mace for remembering the horses generously on Valentine's Day
- * to everyone who donated their pennies and spare change to Mylestone - we raised \$1,100 in 2009 for the horses!

MEMORIALS

Max was the beloved horse of the van Sadlers Family. They adopted Max many years ago for their older daughter Jennifer. Max was a real character and Mylestone is very grateful to the van Sadlers family for their devotion to Max and several other rescues.



- * In Memory of Denise McCabe from John McCabe
- * In Memory of Denise McCabe from Dolly Damato
- * In Memory of Jon A. Huber from Mr. and Mrs. Owen Graham
- * In Memory of Maeleene Loos from Marion and Kenneth Rapp
- * In Memory of Sid Herman from Harvey Herman
- * In Memory of Donna Fuscardi beloved sister of volunteer Beth Patti and Family
- * In Memory of Michael J. Petercsak beloved father of volunteer Barbara Peterscak from
Lillian and Edward Huhn, Magdalena and Ciuba Family, Rosemarie Natividad and Family, Richard Adelman and Carol McGugin
- * In Memory of Susen Dougherty Kregar, devoted animal lover, from Charles Heinze, Jennifer Rispoli, Nancy Knight, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Dougherty, Tim and Kathleen Frontz, Mary Stevens, Myndi Smithers, John Marciano and Deidre Terpin
- * In Memory of Eileen De La Cruz
from Joseph and Geraldine Mangini
- * In Memory of Joan Lord from Albert Botto and friends
from the Relationship Management Dept. of Merck and Co.
- * In Memory of Tara from Patricia McKay
- * In Memory of Amy Diadato's horse "Willy" from Sharon Rush
- * In Memory of beloved horse "Hogan" from Janet Young
- * In Memory of "Jetson" with heartfelt thanks to Mary Beth Hamorski VMD, Jeff Salatiello VMD, Tempe and Sean Salatiello and Jean Hamorski for their wonderful care and kindness from Barbara Carroll
- * In Memory of "Jetson" by Susan and Rupert Hauser with special thanks to Barbara Carroll and Mary Beth Hamorski and family

GRANT PROVIDED NEW STORAGE SHED



We have been blessed with the addition of this brand new storage barn to store hay, bedding and blankets. This barn was made possible by a grant from the Carter Rowe Foundation. We are very grateful because we didn't have adequate storage for the supplies needed for horses in our critical area. Thank you, Pam, for all you do for the Mylestone horses!

GRANTS

A special thank you to the following for their generous grants to Mylestone:

- * The Tyler Foundation for a very generous grant for the horses and our program with special needs students
- * India Blake Foundation for a very generous grant
- * Albin Family Foundation for the care of Gem's medical expenses
- * Katie's Fund - The Philadelphia Foundation for a generous grant
- * Unwanted Horse Veterinary Relief Campaign for supplying vaccines for 1/3 of our horses
- * Kubale Family Foundation

DONATION FORM

Your support of Mylestone is greatly appreciated. Please use this form if you wish to make a straight donation to help the horses. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-Mail: _____

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____

Send to:

Mylestone Equine Rescue

227 Still Valley Road * Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

(908) 995-9300

www.mylestone.org

Mylestone Equine Rescue is a non-profit 501(c)(3) not for profit charity.
Your gift is tax deductible