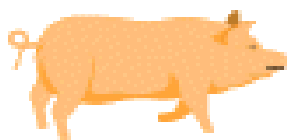


Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary

OCTOBER 2008

Newsletter



Extend Your Circle Of Compassion...

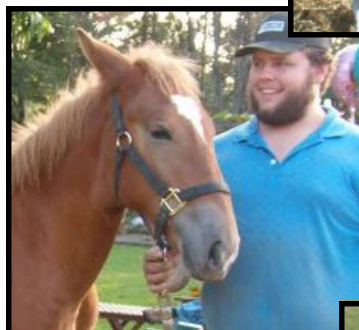
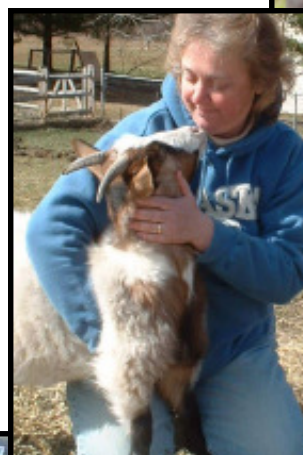
Upcoming Holidays Offer A Unique Opportunity To Make Kind Choices

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated. I hold that, the more helpless a creature, the more entitled it is to protection by man from the cruelty of man."—Mahatma Gandhi (1869 - 1948)

If you are truly an animal-lover, it only makes sense to extend your compassion to all types of animals.

It's amazing to see just how easy it is to extend kindness to animals other than our pet dogs and cats and puppies and kittens. All the animals that are rescued here at Happy Trails come from neglect or brutal cruelty situations. They all
continued on page 19

Clockwise from top right: Leah Fanchi and a new baby peep; Cari Ludrowski and Malcolm; Ernie Krasovic and Floyd; Yelana the person and Yelana the duck; Sharon Barnard and Mona Lisa; Rob Willard and Duke; Tracy McIvor and Penelope; Cheri Rider and Natasha



letter from the director

Dear Friends Of Happy Trails,

It's been a challenge this past year (and that's an understatement) to juggle too many animals, too many cruelty cases, too little funds and an all volunteer staff. However, when doubt creeps in, there's always somebody available to throw my own words back at me. "It will all work out the way it should," is usually my motto. I have a pretty strong faith that we are doing exactly what we need to be doing, but every once in a while it can sure become challenging, especially during those times when the calls requesting our help and the incoming donations don't quite match up.

The one day I was fretting about getting medical treatment for one of the animals, looking at the expenses and the amount of animals in our care going into winter, and was voicing my concerns to a friend. Thank God for Mary who bounced my theory right back at me..."It will all work out the way it should", she told me. "Isn't that what you always say?"

And amazingly enough, it does. Happy Trails has been incredibly busy this year, and has been in the public's eye on a regular basis. Visits to our website have reached nearly 300,000 (yes, you read that right) in May, and topped well over 200,000 in September. We have attended over 40 community events. We have been written about in more than ten local newspapers. We can't hardly keep goats and sheep at the sanctuary due to the interest from folks wanting to adopt goats and sheep from the



Happy Trails.

So as we continue to grow and change and establish ourselves as the permanent fixture that Ohio so

desperately needs, I truly believe that even with all the challenges that are presented to us daily, "It will all work out the way it should."

I see people's attitudes towards animals changing daily. I see folks making kinder and more compassionate choices in the products that they buy and the foods that they purchase. I see people willing to learn about the unacceptable and often horrific conditions and treatment of the animals on the factory farms and have watched them take steps as consumers to vote against animal cruelty. During this season of election coverage, many people don't realize the power of your vote. You can vote daily against animal cruelty by simply not buying products that promote animal suffering. And by not giving your hard-earned money to companies or farming industries that treat animals with cruelty, your vote is heard loud and clear.

So Happy Trails will continue to pave the way here in Ohio to promote kindness to all animals, and in the big scheme of things, I will continue to believe that "it will all work out the way it should".

Annette Fisher
Executive Director

Happy Trails 2008 Board Of Directors

Annette Fisher Executive Director
Sharon Barnard President
Mary Bittance Vice President
Lauren Carroll Treasurer
Caitlin Doherty Secretary
General Board Positions:
Russ Fisher
Rob Willard
Jim Masi
Cheri Rider

Special Interests

Chuck Conring 330-733-1478
Webmaster

Nancy Conring 330-733-1478
Mailing List Coordinator

Sue Buttermore 330-388-2106
Volunteer Program Coordinator

Special Volunteer Opportunities

Don't really want to do physical labor, but would like to be involved in helping the rescued animals in some way?

There is now a list of volunteer administrative, fundraising and community program opportunities available on our website — check them out at www.happytrailsfarm.org., and choose to be involved!

Community Outreach — Where Has Happy Trails Been?

Happy Trails is thrilled to be in demand at many community events — what an awesome opportunity to talk to folks about being kind to farm animals, and to spread the word about our furry and feathered friends needing to be adopted into homes where they will be loved and cared for!

The Bath Community invited Happy Trails to participate in the Bath Community Parade held on Saturday, August 2. The Happy Trails crew put together an animal-friendly parade float and rode, walked, or trotted in line, waving, clucking, baahing, neighing and quacking to all the smiling folks

waving back at us! We handed out literature, sponsorship information, and invited folks to get involved with the sanctuary.

Happy Trails has also visited the residents at Hattie Larlham who are challenged with both mental and physical disabilities, and the animals brought smiles to many faces, including their staff! There were also a variety of items on hand to touch and experience, including horse saddles, grains, handfuls of straw and hay, stall rakes, halters, and grooming supplies.

Cheri Rider, Happy Trails Board Member and Coordinator of the Happy Trails Farm Animal Visitation Program, also orchestrated visits to Pebble Creek Nursing Home, Alter Care of Ravenna, Long Meadow Nursing Home, and Rainbow Pre-School in Warren.

Natasha the famous goat brought along her servant, Cheri Rider, to accompany her on the Happy Trails float in the Bath Parade!



This little cow girl, Delanie Donahew, rode in the Bath Community Day Parade on behalf of the rescued farm animals at Happy Trails. Aunt Abby Robinson walked along and made sure that this make-shift horsey didn't buck.

The Sundance Kids Equine 4-H Club of Chardon also hosted a Happy Trails night, and several rescued animals made an appearance. Our presentation focused on our horse rescue programs, and all the 4-H members gathered gently used horse tack to benefit these programs.

Rescued animals had breakfast on the patio at Vegi-Terranean, the vegan restaurant in Akron, and they greeted patrons during the morning bring-your-pet-to-breakfast event.

Happy Trails community events calendar tends to book up rather quickly. If you are interested in having Happy Trails do a presentation for your organization or set up a display at your community event, call us at (330) 296-5914. We do try our very best to accept as many invitations as are realistic for an all-volunteer organization. Advance notice offers better odds of Happy Trails animals and volunteers being available to attend a special event.



Looking For Something Unique To Do For The Holidays? Visit Happy Trails Rescued Animals At Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens!

All throughout the holidays at the historic Stan Hywet Hall in Akron, a group of Happy Trails rescued animals will be residents of the beautiful estate from Friday, November 28th (the day after Thanksgiving) through Sunday, December 28th.

Happy Trails will be encouraging a Compassionate Christmas, and an assortment of rescued animals will be available to meet and greet guests who tour the grounds and enjoy the festive holiday atmosphere of the beautifully decorated historic setting for the celebration of Deck The Halls. This annual holiday evening event features selected rooms of the historic Tudor Revival mansion decorated to reflect a particular theme. The estate's grounds and gardens will offer a winter wonderland of lights. *Art of*



Come for the history and take away an experience.

the Nativity is a special exhibit in the Manor House of more than 40 nativity scenes and is on display November 8 – December 28. Traditional Christmas decorations will fill The Manor House, with a special Seiberling Christmas exhibit in the Great Hall. Special musical entertainment from area choirs and music groups will be featured on Sunday and Tuesday evenings.

TIMES: Tuesday through Sunday (closed Mondays) from 5pm - 8pm (closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas)

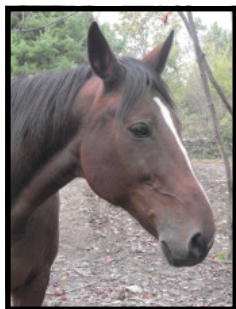
COST: Self-guided Manor House and grounds tours are \$14 per adult; grounds only tours are \$8 per adult. Youth (ages 6-17) are \$2 each for either tour. Children under the age of 6 are admitted free with an adult. Stan Hywet members receive an additional discount.

You can check out more details including tour times and admission prices at www.stanhywet.org, or call (330) 836-5533.

Advanced ticketing is recommended, but not required.

So be sure to include a delightful evening visiting the Happy Trails rescued animals at historic Stan Hywet Hall, and make this fun event a part of your new holiday traditions!





Give The Gift Of Life Holiday Sponsorship Program

Put a present under the tree,

A turkey for you,

A duck for me...

Not a ski coat

But a cute little goat.

Not a blond wig

But a fat little pig.

Nothing too

expensive of course,

*But maybe a big gentle
draft horse...*



**What better time of year than
the Christmas season to give the
gift of life?**

Farm animal sponsorships can be a fun way of giving something very unique to that special or hard-to-buy-for someone during the holidays.

Select the type of animal that you would like to "give as a gift", and simply fill out the gift sponsorship form, and return it to Happy Trails along with your gift sponsorship fee. *All sponsorships must be received by December 15th to guarantee delivery by Christmas.*

The gift-recipient will receive a gift-sponsorship package, including a full-color photo, fun-facts about the rescued farm animal, and an information sheet outlining the animal's care. It details items such as feed, bedding, medical and other special needs of that particular animal.

Both you and your gift-recipient will be personally invited to the sanctuary for a one-time visit to meet your sponsored animal, and to attend a special "Sponsor's Day". If you choose to sponsor an animal for an entire year, your gift recipient is welcome to visit the sponsored animal every month during 2009!

Your gift sponsorship will help provide proper care for a neglected animal. For more details, call Sharon Barnard at (330) 928-3623.

FARM ANIMAL HOLIDAY GIFT SPONSORSHIP

Name _____

Business/Organization _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (home/cell) _____

email address _____

I would like to sponsor a rescued animal for one month as a gift for:

Name/Phone _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

email address _____

(Gift recipient will receive a gift card from you along with their sponsorship packet.)

I would like to send a one-month Holiday Gift Sponsorship for the following type of animal(s). Please send their photo, story, information, and a special invitation to visit them to the person above!

☐ Draft Horse: \$75

☐ Goat: \$30

☐ Retired Amish Horse: \$50

☐ Goose: \$20

☐ Rescued Horse: \$50

☐ Turkey: \$20

☐ Farm Pig: \$30

☐ Duck: \$20

☐ Pot Belly Pig: \$30

☐ Chicken: \$20

Total Amount
Enclosed

\$ _____

To sponsor an animal for an entire year and to give your gift recipient visitation rights to the sanctuary once a month for twelve months, multiply the holiday sponsor amount times twelve.

Please return sponsor form and donation to Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, Inc.
5623 New Milford Rd., Ravenna, Ohio 44266.

**All requests must be received by December 15 in order to
guarantee delivery by Christmas Day.**

The Story Of Triumph The Percheron Draft Horse Has A Happy Ending!

(The complete story of Triumph and additional details about the rescue can be found on our website at www.happytrailsfarm.org.)

Happy Trails helps out every county humane society and animal protective league in Ohio as often as we possibly can when it comes to farm animal and horse cruelty cases. We have an especially soft spot in our heart for the Holmes County Humane Society, which deals with a very large county with a very small staff and very little resources.

Recently, we received a call from Elaine Mikus, director of Holmes County HS. There was a severe neglect case involving a Percheron yearling — could we help?

Unfortunately, Happy Trails was not only full, but still overflowing and reeling from the sheer number of cruelty cases that we took in this past year, and had nowhere to put yet another starved horse. **Here is where the power of networking comes into play.** After placing some frantic phone calls, who stepped up to the plate and offered to take in the draft youngster? None other than Last Chance Corral with Director, Victoria Goss, in Athens, Ohio! So the rescue proceeded.

Rob Willard, Happy Trails Board Member and transport driver for Happy Trails, and myself, waited up



From the street you could see the starved youngster tied with a heavy chain to a stake. Even from a distance you could clearly see his protruding bones. There was no shelter, water or hay.

the road for Elaine to arrive at the location in question. We had driven for about an hour and a half from the sanctuary to a place in the middle of nowhere. We could see from the street the horse in question — he had a an enormous eye that protruded about 2" out of his head. He stood very still, a heavy metal chain hung from under his chin and wrapped around his back legs. There was no sign of grain, hay, food or water. There was also no shelter. And there he stood. Starved. Malnourished. Weak. Flies covered his bad eye.

Elaine arrived and talked to the owner. **Of course, no animal-owner is ever happy to hear that their animal is being treated cruelly and is being neglected.** He was not happy to see the humane society director. With an

unhappy owner on hand, the sheriff was called to facilitate the removal of the horse. The sheriff was visibly upset at what he saw, and admonished the owner for the lack of care of this animal. Paperwork then was signed, and we were given permission to load the horse.

Rob carefully hooked a lead-line on the young horse with no name, and led him over to the trailer. My bucket of grain enticed the youngster to step right up into the trailer.

The drive out of the hilly, backwoods country was slow and careful, testing the colt to see if he was strong enough to stand as we went up hills and rounded corners. We were able to pick up speed once we hit paved roads and civilization about a half hour later.



Once inside the warmth and comfort of a roomy stall at Last Chance, Triumph's story started to write it's happy ending — he was now safe!

We were then looking at a two hour ride to Athens, Ohio, where Victoria and her crew were waiting patiently for us. We would stop every half hour and offer the dehydrated boy a very small bucket of water, not wanting to overload his debilitated system all at once. **He apparently hadn't had water for quite some time.**

We finally arrived at our destination — Last Chance Corral. Meeting us at the street was Victoria, waiving our trailer to back into the driveway. Rob maneuvered the rig between the fences and back to the barn, and we unloaded our precious cargo. The horse was led into the brightly lit barn and into a warm, dry stall filled with water and best of all, hay! **He dove face first into the pile of hay, and there he stayed for quite a while.**

And there four of us stood staring in amazement at this pathetic creature. All of us having worked equine rescue for quite a number of years have pretty much seen it all, but it still tugs at your heart when the animal is finally out of it's cruelty situation and is in front of you in

someplace warm and caring. Everyone pretty much breathes a sigh of relief when the horse is unloaded off the trailer and placed in a safe stall.

And here he was. A tall, starved, no-name

malnourished yearling draft horse with a really screwed up eye. We all determined that he was salvageable and would make a great horse for someone once he recovers. Victoria immediately named him "Triumph", for she said that in spite of all he's been through, he will indeed triumph!

However, the vet determined that we were not dealing with a yearling, but rather a two year old! "This horse is about 650 to 700 lbs. underweight!" That was exactly half of what he should weigh for his height and his breed!

Victoria's willingness to help us cost Last Chance quite a bit of money. Happy Trails role was very small compared to what Last Chance is dedicating to the medical expenses and care for this wonderful fuzzy creature. Happy Trails spent about \$200 in gas for the trip (we are always asking for donations of gas cards, and this rescue is a great example of why we do — we had no gas cards to cover this trip).

Victoria's cost ended up being quite a bit more. The vet decided

that the eye needed removed immediately. The diagnosis was glaucoma due to trauma, an excruciatingly painful condition, and there was no other options to repair his vision. The vet also decided to geld him at the same time since he was already under anesthesia. Then there's the grain, hay, worming, teeth floating, vaccinations, hoof trimmings and bedding that will be needed to meet his basic needs.

Now begins recovery...a long and winding road for the youngster. Triumph's rescue has cost Last Chance Corral about two grand. Happy Trails encourages folks who would like to support the rescue of Triumph to mail tax-deductible donations to Victoria at:

Last Chance Corral
5350 US 33 South
Athens, Ohio 45701

To inquire about adopting this incredible horse, call Victoria at 740-594-4336. And be sure to check out their website at www.lastchancecorral.org.

To adopt a dog or cat, please consider adopting from the Holmes County Humane Society — 330-231-5439.

Animal rescue truly is about organizations working together for the good of the animals — and Happy Trails appreciates our supporters who in turn help support our friends in rescue as well!

A special thanks goes out to Eileen, Victoria, Rob and the Holmes County Sheriff's Department. Good job to everyone involved!!!

Celebrate A Compassionate Thanksgiving In Honor Of Thomas Edison

Here's something to contemplate: every year billions of turkeys that are genetically manipulated to grow extremely obese in a very short amount of time are raised on turkey factory farms. They were engineered to grow so incredibly and un-naturally quickly that their legs often cannot hold up the extreme weight of their body, and their heart's often give out from not being able to pump enough oxygen through their system.

Here at Happy Trails we watched the demise of a precious bird who arrived through our rescue program. Male turkeys are often referred to as "Tom Turkeys", Tom being a typical name used for the boys. But this beautiful creature needed a more creative name — he was comical, he was incredibly handsome, he was social and talkative, he had a cool personality, and he was smart! He needed a name like...like Thomas Edison!

It's too bad that everyone didn't have a chance to meet Thomas Edison before the holidays. Thomas Edison represented everything wrong with our current Thanksgivings.

Thomas Edison weighed over 40 lbs., and at feeding time, he would get up on terribly swollen legs and toes and hurry as best as he could over to greet his servant. As Thomas Edison continued to

grow, his individual toes became even more painfully and grotesquely swollen, red and inflamed. The vet affirmed our suspicions that nothing could be done to correct this condition.

When the scientists who created these beings manipulated them to grow larger, they conveniently neglected to consider what the turkeys needed to stand on.

One day I even discovered Thomas Edison laying upside down, struggling to breath. He was so heavy that after he lost his balance and fell over, he didn't have the strength to right himself. He was extremely stressed and frightened.

As Thomas Edison began to spend more and time sitting on the ground, unable to move around comfortably, he began to lose the feathers from his stomach. His skin that he constantly sat on began to get sores. Finally we noticed that his breathing was starting to become more labored. His heart that held nothing but love for his human and feathered companions was starting to give out. He was getting very little oxygen with such poor circulation, and during his last days, he



began to pant and sometimes gasp for air. He could no longer reach around to his back to preen the casings off his new feathers that were now poking out. We all loved Thomas Edison. He would let me pet the top of his lumpy head as I would marvel at the beautiful colors that he would turn as his moods would change. Blues usually meant that he was calm and cool. Reds and purples meant that something was up. What we didn't love was the way he had to struggle to walk, struggle to stand up, topple over and lose his balance, and struggle to breath normally.

Finally we knew that we needed to help Thomas Edison cross the Rainbow Bridge. Cheri Rider and I carefully held Thomas Edison and reassured him as the vet helped him drift off into a peaceful

Thomas Edison

continued from page 8

sleep. We cried not only for Thomas Edison, but for his millions of brothers and sisters who continue to suffer and not have the kind and caring end to their life that we were able to give Thomas Edison. We wish for Thomas Edison strength, happiness and a new world filled with peace and comfort and no more pain. And shame on the people who bred these poor animals to become the mutated creatures that our society now butchers every Thanksgiving — please remember him and his millions of friends on November 27th and share his story.

And please consider the many food alternatives (such as Tofurkey, a soy-based non-meat alternative) that are available, and begin new family traditions that are filled with kindness and compassion for our animal friends — all in honor of one incredible turkey, Thomas Edison.

There is tons of information about the advantages of animal-friendly nutrition and some great recipes at the following sites :

• **Physicians For Responsible Medicine—**

<http://www.pcrm.org/health/veginfo/nutritionfaq.html>

• **Mercy For Animals —**

http://www.mercyforanimals.org/thanksgiving_recipes.asp

• **Farm Sanctuary —**

http://vegforlife.org/health_veganic_farming.html

PETA (People For The Ethical Treatment Of Animals) —

<http://blog.vegcooking.com/>

Vegan Thanksgiving Recipes

Check out a great assortment of delicious vegan recipes at www.fatfreevegan.com and specifically at <http://www.fatfreevegan.com/search/search.pl?Terms=thanksgiving+recipes>

Thanksgiving “Meat” Loaf



substitute for 2 eggs
1 tablespoon soy sauce
1 box med. firm silken tofu (350 g)
3/4 cup chopped walnuts
1 packet vegan dried onion soup mix (1.5 oz)
1 1/2 cups chopped onion
2/4 cup chopped celery
2 cups chopped mushrooms
oregano, basil & ground
1 1/2 cups vegan bread crumbs

Mix egg substitute, soy sauce, tofu & onion soup mix together in blender. Add walnuts & blend until smooth.

Sauté vegetables until onions are transparent (add other diced veggies if you wish - ie peppers, carrots, etc). Add herbs/spices while vegetables are frying.

Mix blender ingredients, cooked vegetables & vegan bread crumbs together in a large bowl.

Press into a greased loaf pan.

Bake at 350 degrees F. for 45 minutes. Let cool slightly. Turn loaf out and slice.

Adapted slightly from vegweb.com



Compliments of
<http://www.fatfreevegan.com/holiday/thanks.shtml>.

Did Natasha The Goat Or Nacho The Rooster Get Married?



Well, though Natasha is wearing a wedding veil and garter and Nacho is wearing a tuxedo and bow tie, neither of them has tied the knot. They did, however, dress up to attend a very special celebration in honor of newlyweds, Connie Bloom and her husband, Bob Shields.

On Friday, October 10th, friends gathered at Sand Run Metro Park to help Akron Beacon Journal reporter, Connie Bloom, celebrate three earth-shattering events — her wedding, her retirement from the newspaper, and her new art studio at Jimmy's Cafe in Cuyahoga Falls.

Among the many friends and family in attendance were Natasha and Nacho. I do believe that Connie places the goat and the

rooster in the “family” category.

Connie has followed Happy Trails growth and progress from our early stages as a fledgling organization to our current status of being the very public and well-known sanctuary that we are today. Many Happy Trails fans have heard about



the sanctuary through the wonderful stories that Connie shared with her readers using her very unique and passionate style of writing. Her love of animals is abundant, and just as many of us have been big fans of Connie's writing talents, she is, in turn, a big fan of the rescued

animals. Her enthusiasm for all the new changes that are taking place in her life is both contagious and inspiring. Though we will certainly miss her columns, we look forward to seeing more of Connie at the sanctuary!



All the animals at Happy Trails wish Connie and Bob all the very best!

Thank You's

As usual, there is never enough room to thank all the folks who help Happy Trails. So here's just a few folks to mention:

- **Guys With Chainsaws:** Adam Buttermore, Shawn Tusko, Kevin Bragg and George Ritchie, who came to the rescue when the windstorm blew through Ravenna and toppled a great deal of our trees
- **The Portage APL representatives,** Sheila Vandergriff, Director, and Jennifer Sanderson, Humane Officer, for helping get the pot belly piggy areas cleaned up after the horrible wind storm
- **To Shawn Weyrick** for constructing what we believe is indestructible screen doors for the two new poultry barns
- **Children's Hospital** for inviting Happy Trails to set up a booth and talk to their employees about sanctuary donations and involvement
- **The Robinson family** for sending in donations as a tribute to and in memory of their beloved family member, 16 year old Stephen Ellenberger, who passed away.
- **New and very dedicated volunteers,** Cari Ludrowski, Tara Vanta, Christine Meznarich and Mindy Tusko, and returning hard worker volunteer, Tim Shimer.
- **Die-hard weekend volunteer workers,** Leah Franchi and Alex Hale

Visit our website at
www.happytrailsfarm.org

The Story Of Jim The Horse

(This is a much-shortened version of The Story Of Jim — you can read the entire article at www.happytrailsfarm.org.)

Happy Trails has a program designed to rescue retired Amish buggy and plow horses when they can no longer serve their owners due to old age, injuries or illness.

Recently we received a call about Jim. Jim is a 21 year old Belgian gelding that worked right up to the end of summer. He plowed and planted the fields with his teammates, and his owner was concerned that Jim was just getting too old to keep up any more. Normally I would have immediately jumped at the chance to take in another Amish horse, but due to our already overloaded sanctuary, I had to ask the owner if he would be willing to keep Jim on his farm while I searched for a home for him.

The owner mentioned that Jim had recently developed a tumor that you could see inside his nostril.

Since I didn't know just how quickly we could place Jim, I called one of the vets that we work with in the Wayne County area, Dr. Mike Geiger of Horizon Equine Clinic. Doc Geiger paid a visit to Jim on behalf of Happy Trails. The prognosis wasn't good.

The tumor was about 9" long and extended up the entire nostril, and took up most of the breathing space in Jim's nose. Jim was very thin, and the concern was that the tumor

was a cancer that had could have also spread internally to other parts of the body. A talk about Jim being an older, underweight horse, the risks of nasal surgery and the challenges of stopping the bleeding in this area, and the question of just how much did we want to put this horse through helped us come to the difficult decision that we should help Jim cross the Rainbow Bridge. The owner agreed, but requested that we remove Jim from his property before doing anything.

Not wanting to put Jim through an hour and a half trailer ride to Happy Trails, we decided to haul Jim the much shorter distance to Horizon Equine Clinic. We would make him comfortable overnight and have him euthanized the following day.

On Thursday, Oct. 9th, we picked Jim up from his Amish farm, and I finally got to meet Jim in person.

We found the farm easily. I could hear Jim's labored breathing from where I stood a distance away. As the horse was walked over to me, I could smell a rotting odor coming from his nose and mouth. His lips were covered with drool and saliva, and the snorting sounds that he was making to breath broke my heart.

"He went downhill really quickly this past week," the owner said.



Rob, our Happy Trails board member and transport driver, walked Jim toward the big open door of our trailer. Jim picked up his giant foot and carefully stepped inside. While trying to mend Jim's broken halter with some pieces of twine in order to tie Jim safely in, Rob said he nearly became physically ill due to the overwhelming stench coming from Jim's face.

I left Happy Trails newsletters, brochures about our Amish Horse Retirement Program, had the proper paperwork signed, and down the driveway we went. I was incredibly sad.

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Happy Trails Reps Attend Farm Sanctuary Seminar

On Sept. 20th & 21st, a fun, informative, and educational weekend at the facilities of one of our established sanctuary role models, Farm Sanctuary in Watkins Glenn, New York, resulted in lots of informative and helpful information.

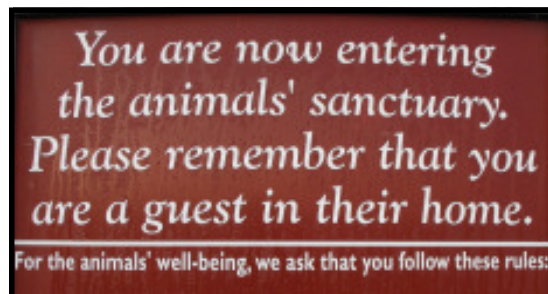
Happy Trails is always seeking to pattern our organization after the bigger and much more established sanctuaries, and constantly strives to learn from their expertise.

For anyone interested in growing and nurturing their existing sanctuary or are interested in starting a sanctuary of their own, this is a wonderful, educational and inspiring seminar that Farm Sanctuary holds occasionally throughout the year!



Farm Sanctuary Animal Care Director, Susie, talks to our class about proper care and handling of the big pigs.

The seminar covers everything from animal care, required paperwork, fundraising, staffing, and volunteer programs, to



This has to be one of the best signs at Farm Sanctuary.

choosing the right location, staff and board members, outreach and educational programs, and much more.

The staff presenting the seminar were all very gracious, knowledgeable, welcoming, helpful, and they very clearly loved the organization and rescued farm animals that they represented. Be sure to check out the farm sanctuary website at www.farmsanctuary.org — they do awesome work and we are privileged to have their guidance.

Many thanks to Farm Sanctuary for sharing their knowledge and for mentoring us smaller organizations!

Back To Nature Walk A Success

On Saturday, Oct. 4th, Happy Trails volunteers and rescued animals welcomed visitors to our Back To Nature Walk at Quail Hollow State Park.

Folks eager to check out the scenic trails of the park first stopped to pet and play with the assortment of farm animals on hand to meet and greet them. Natasha met her guests with a loud "Maaahhhhhh", and assured them that they were in the right place. Nacho the rooster let out an ear-splitting crow, just to make sure that everyone was awake and ready to walk. Malcolm the pig busy being cute, being pet, and being fussed over.

The trails were beautiful and peaceful. A beginner trail through a portion of the woods was paved, and user-friendly for baby strollers and wheelchairs. Everyone picked the trails that they felt suited them the best, and several folks picked more than one trail.

It was a fun, successful and enjoyable day for everyone involved! Many thanks to everyone who walked and collected walk sponsorships and to the many volunteers who helped make the day a success! Happy Trails raised approximately \$2,600!



Abby Robinson, event coordinator, with volunteers Karissa Shomo and Bo Cooksey.

CARES & Case Western Reserve Weekend College Class Held At Happy Trails

The Case Animal Rights and Ethics Society (CARES) hosted a weekend class at Happy Trails on Sunday, September 28th, for SatCo, which is Case Western Reserve's weekend college which offers a series of unique class opportunities.

Together, CARES and Happy Trails introduced the university class to the rescued farm animals and horses, and our class topics included the various cruelty and abuses in the food production industry. We also reviewed how each individual can work toward helping to end the suffering of the animals on the factory farms, discussed the USA equine slaughter laws and Amish Horse Retirement Program, and the students had the chance to meet and hug and pet the animals at the sanctuary. And when we discussed the horrors of animal fighting (which is so prevalent right here in Ohio) and the lax laws that follow the sport, the class had the opportunity to get up close and personal with the ex-cock fighting roosters in one of our Feathered Friends barns. The beautifully colored birds allowed the students to hold and pet them, and the ex-fighters settled comfortably in their arms as they passed them around.

SatCo is open to the entire university and Cleveland communities, so campus members can invite parents, friends, professors and others to join them.



Students offer Fantasia the farm pig a sniff of their hand as a friendly way of greeting the curious piggy.

If you are interested in joining or learning more about CARES, contact CARES President, Michelle Cehn, either by email at mtc14@case.edu or by phone at 510-504-8890.

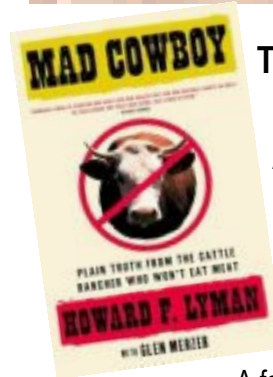
Go to <http://studentaffairs.case.edu/programs/satco/classes.html> online for class schedules and registration.

Check out Happy Trails info at <http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=2052055&id=15503586&l=ca014&ref=share> compliments of Michelle Cehn, CARES president.

Be sure to check out the CARES website — Case Western should be proud to have such an incredible organization on their campus!

Thanks to CARES, to Michelle Cehn, President of CARES, and to Case Western Reserve for including Happy Trails in their special SatCo program!

Highly Recommended Reading



Title:
Mad Cowboy

Author:
Howard Lyman

This book is a real eye-opener!

A fourth-generation former cattle rancher-from-Montana-turned-vegetarian blasts through the propaganda of beef and dairy interests — and the government agencies that protect them — to expose an animal-based diet as the primary cause of cancer, heart disease, and obesity.

Chapter One: How To Tell The Truth And Get In Trouble Howard Lyman's testimony on *The Oprah Winfrey Show* revealed the deadly impact of the livestock industry on our well-being and the environment, and resulted in a lawsuit. The information Howard provides as to what is accepted at the rendering plants will open your eyes as to what the meat that you eat is in turn eating.

Quotes: "There is simply no such thing in America as an animal too ravaged by disease, too cancerous, or too putrid to be welcomed by the all-embracing arms of the renderer." "The use of animal excrement in feed is common as well, as livestock operators have found it to be an efficient way of disposing of a portion of the 1.6 million tons of livestock wastes generated annually by their industry. In Arkansas, for example, the average farm feeds over fifty tons of chicken litter to cattle every year..If you are a meat-eater, understand that this is the food of your food. . . ."

Lyman is now president of Voice for a Viable Future. **His website is www.madcowboy.com.**

As A Consumer And As Someone Who Cares About Animals, *You Have The Right To Know*

No-one likes to read about topics that make us uncomfortable or that contain information that might cause us have to make changes in our daily habits. I include myself in this. However, many people who sincerely care about animals don't realize or have never been exposed to the level of animal cruelty that we accept (or often ignore) on our factory farms, on the transport trucks, and in our mass-production slaughterhouses. I truly don't believe that when presented with the facts, that animal-friendly folks would willingly continue to support the atrocities that are inflicted daily upon the animals in our food production system. You have a right to know what is being done to the animals you purchase as food.

Ponder the following facts, and then please consider taking steps to *not* support animal cruelty.

- Four hundred million egg-laying hens live a miserable life, and are crowded five hens to an 18"



A hot blade cuts off the end of the chickens beaks.

square cage called a battery cage. Their beaks are cut back (often to their nose) so that they can't peck at each other in their un-naturally cramped environment. A chicken's natural wing span is 32 inches.

- Broiler chickens, the breed raised for meat, are raised in buildings with up to nine birds per square foot. Broiler chickens are killed at only 45

days old, because they are genetically manipulated to become excessively heavy much quicker than their bodies should be growing.

- Though all acts of cruelty bother me, this one bothers me a great deal. It should also bother you. Egg producers suffocate or grind up (alive) 280 million male chicks per year. Chicken processors, who kill about 5,000 chickens per hour, disregard hygiene due to lack of time, and often return bodies dropped on the floor to the processing line.

- Approximately 100 million (yes, you read that right) pigs are killed annually for food. Most pork, bacon, and ham comes from pigs who spend their short lives in stacked crates or barren cement pens with iron bars. They do not experience sunshine, earth beneath their hooves, soft bedding or a gentle hand.

- Mother pigs live most of their lives in a gestation crate, an area not even big enough for them to turn around in or stretch their legs out. They stand there, day after day, until they are no longer useful. Then they too are butchered.

- In the bitter cold of winter, pigs that are shipped in livestock trailers and are the unlucky passengers on the outsides of the trailer, often arrive at the slaughterhouse partially frozen to the sides of the trailers. Many of these pigs are still alive. I personally watched a driver shove an electric cattle prod in to shock the pigs in his trailer just for fun, when I was taking a group of our pigs out to California last year to another sanctuary. His pigs screamed in pain.

- At the slaughterhouse, fully conscious chickens and turkeys are shackled by their ankles upside-down to a moving overhead conveyor belt. The birds are then given intensely painful electric shocks intended to immobilize them to make it easier to slit their throats. The shocks are frequently not powerful

enough to render them unconscious. After being shocked, the birds' throats are cut by a mechanical blade. Inevitably, the blade misses some birds who then proceed to the next station on the assembly line: the scalding tank. *According to USDA statistics, millions of birds every year have their bodies submerged in scalding hot water (about 143° F) while they are fully conscious.*

Did you know that poultry are not protected under the Humane Slaughter Act or the Animal Welfare Act?

There are many disturbing facts about the way our animals are treated on factory farms, during transport, and in the slaughterhouses, and you have a right to know this information. And it's our responsibility as consumers, to not condone nor support the industries that turn a blind eye to the incredible suffering and pain that they inflict on these creatures. Of course we can ignore the facts and pretend that they don't affect us. But I can assure you that they do.

A brilliant philosopher, Mahatma Gandhi, once said, "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."

So what does the way we allow our animals in the food production industry to be treated say about us? Be informed and make educated and compassionate decisions.

Read more statistics on-line at our website at www.happytrailsfarm.org.

Statistics are presented from: <http://www.centerforfoodsafety.org/pubsFactoryFarmingFactSheet.pdf> and http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/274046sobering_statistics_about_factory_farming.html?page=2&cat=22

Winning Their Freedom In Court: Takado the horse, Cisco Pig and Celita Pig

Visiting the scene of a horrific animal neglect situation resulted in Happy Trails assisting The Portage County Humane Officer with the removal of two horses and two farm pigs.

Sadly, one of the horses had to be euthanized the following day. The second horse was a starved but very handsome dark bay gelding that we named Takado, a Sioux Indian name meaning “friend to everyone”. He had a long road ahead of him to recover.

The two young farm pigs, who we named Cisco Pig and Celita, were absolute sweethearts, and had been deprived of food and water for what had to be a phenomenal amount of time. We discovered them desperately standing on their



hind legs inside a four-foot square enclosure in about four to five inches of a manure slurry trying to get our attention.

After these animals were removed from their situation of neglect, we of course, offered them water. By the next morning, the male piggy went into severe convulsions from excessive dehydration. His brain had swelled, and the vet remained with us throughout most of the day to monitor his condition. Thankfully, Cisco Pig pulled through after a lot of prayers and a constant vigil of people who cared. Eventually Cisco pig recovered, and now enjoys a huge yard at the



Celita (above) and Cisco Pig were both completely caked with now-dried manure that clung in clumps to their soft hair.

sanctuary along with his best friend, Celita. He has a huge, thick mound of dry, warm straw for bedding, fresh clean water which is changed several times a day, and receives a gentle pat or a belly rub from the Happy Trails servants who are responsible for his care. Both of these pink beauties are now doing wonderful, and are growing like little 350 lb. weeds. They are funny and personable and inquisitive and affectionate.

15 year old Takado the horse is growing too — growing into his skin! Takado has gained well over 100 lbs. since his arrival at the sanctuary, and he is down to having to gain his last 40lbs. The vet gave him the OK to start riding, and we can tell that he obviously has been ridden before. He will be soon be spending time at one of our professional trainers.

So an admission of guilt and a plea-bargain resulted in three animals earning their well-deserved freedom. I guess in a way we helped set the second horse free also — free from a life of pain, agony and starvation.

All three rescued animals have recovered amazingly well! With a little bit of love and care and patience, Takado should truly make some lucky person a wonderful equine companion. For complete adoption information, call Happy Trails at 330-296-5914.

Jim The Horse *(continued)*



At Horizon Equine, we helped Jim settle into a roomy indoor arena. I had immediately fallen in love with the big, pathetic horse who couldn't breathe. Here we could see just how thin the horse really was. His ribs stuck out and his hip bones protruded. Gallons of drool was again coming out of his mouth, and blood was coming out of the tumor in his nose. His nose was obviously swollen. After getting photos for our files, Rob went off to do paperwork, and I stayed with Jim. I gave him a really really good massage. His eyes half closed and he seemed to be appreciating the calming attention. I massaged his withers and shoulders, explaining to him how much I already loved him, and apologized over and over again for his ailments. I explained to him that Doctor Mike would be here soon and that we would help him get to a place where he would feel no more pain. Jim seemed to accept that, and relaxed a great deal as I massaged his back. Before I left him, I wrapped my arms around his big neck and buried my face in his mane and cried.

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In the office I explained how much more Jim's health had declined since Dr. Mike saw him, and just how difficult it was now for Jim to breathe. Jim would be euthanized that evening. "And we will pet and comfort him when he goes," I was assured.

Part of our responsibility as rescue workers is to know when to help end an animal's pain and suffering. However, I think I felt especially bad about Jim because we weren't able to give him even a short retirement. Though I knew him for not even two hours, I felt a bond with Jim. I hope that we were able to send his gentle spirit on to a place filled with peace and love.

Several very kind folks have sent in donations to cover the costs associated with this rescue, and we truly appreciate your support. Expenses for Jim's rescue included:
Vet call, examination, blood work, and euthanasia — \$225
Transport (gas) — \$85
Animal Removal — \$150

Many thanks to everyone who followed Jim's story and cared enough to help us make a difference in his life!

Pet Expo Cancelled

We are sorry that Clear Channel cancelled the Pet Expo to have been held at the Berea Fairgrounds on Sept. 20 & 21 on such short notice. We too were looking forward to the event, and we apologize for any inconvenience.

Animals Who Found Forever Homes

There has been an incredible amount of recent animal adoptions. Congratulations go out to the following animals and their new families who love them:

Smokey the goat; **Fabio** the black rooster; **Migisi** the Quarter horse; **Katrina** the black Percheron mare; **Luke** the Belgian gelding; **Sherwood Forest Gump**, a precious, pink pot belly pig; **Fantasia** the farm piggy; **Solera**, a sweet chestnut Arabian mare; **Ariel**, a beautiful flea-bitten grey mare; **Baby Rio** (now renamed Dakota), a 14 month old colt; a second 14 month old baby, a filly named **Cher**; and a pretty **hen** that left us for a new home in Indiana.

Kudos to all the families who opened their hearts and their homes to provide refuge and love for a farm family pet!

New Baby Donkey

After being adopted recently, mama donkey, Janice Bond, just gave birth a few days ago to a healthy and oh-so-precious bouncing baby girl donkey. Pregnant mama donkey was originally rescued by Happy Trails from the kill pens at the Sugarcreek Auction on May 9th. Congratulations! *(Photos to come on the website!)*

A Tribute To Our Animal Friends

Here is a tribute to those who left us recently for greener pastures and a new life without pain.

JAVA THE POT BELLY PIG

was a big black piggy who was never crazy about people. He had his moments when he could be calm, but more often than not, he was always involved in high drama. Java's health steadily declined.

Sharon Barnard held and comforted Java when it was his time to pass.

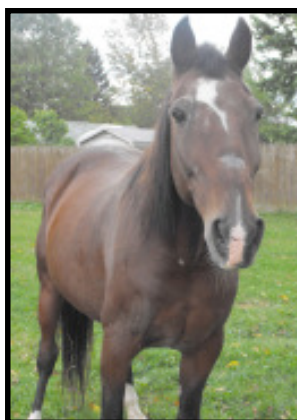
We are sure that all the Happy Trails pigs were in line to meet and



greet Java when he crossed the Rainbow Bridge!

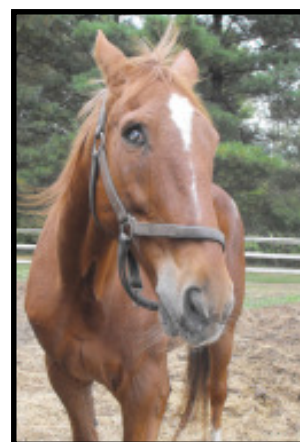
BENNETT THE HORSE

came to Happy Trails as a retired Amish buggy horse with a major back problem. His old injury was beyond repair. Bennett began to fall over, sit backwards, and had little to no control of his hind quarters. For his safety and comfort it was time to say good-bye to the sweet, lovable boy. We let him eat all the apples he wanted to that



morning. I wish him the ability to run once again like he used to be able to do and to have a new life free from the back pain that he experienced here.

SINATRA THE HORSE was a retired Amish horse as well. He had pulled a buggy for ten years, completely blind, before he finally fell twice under harness. Over the summer he lost a great deal of weight, and seemed to become increasingly agitated with his surroundings. An examination revealed that Sinatra had spinal chord and possible neurological issues that was starting to affect his health. He appeared to be uncomfortable, both with himself and with his environment. Given his age and blindness, we chose not to put this horse through more misery and tests and pain. I know that Sinatra can now see clearly all the beauty



that surrounds him, and he can walk and run with confidence with no fear of falling — his new, happy and carefree life has just begun!

Thanks to these animals who entered our lives, even if was just for a short time, to teach us the lessons we needed to learn.

See www.happytrailsfarm.org for a more detailed story.

"See, Brothers, Spring is here. The earth has taken the embrace of the Sun, and soon we shall see the children of that love. All seeds are awake and all animals. From this great power we too have our lives. And therefore, we concede to our fellow creatures, even our animal fellows, the same rights as ourselves, to live on this earth."

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Upcoming Holidays

continued from front page

have unique personalities and show us love in return for the care they receive. Many are quite comical. All of them are inquisitive. Some are rather sensitive, and we've witnessed them experience sadness and grief. If these animals are so much like the pets that we love and spoil rotten on a daily basis, then we should make sure that our choices as consumers afford them the utmost protection from the cruelty of man. So during the holidays, we would like to encourage everyone to make a conscious effort to promote compassion for all animals. Here's a few ideas:

- If you see a possible animal cruelty situation, please report it to your local county humane society or animal protective league. Your concerned call can always be made anonymously if you prefer, and the local humane officer can check on the condition of that animal.

- Make sure that the lotions, cosmetics and perfumes you

purchase for your friends are labeled as not tested on animals, nor should

they have any animal products included in their ingredients. Look for this symbol.



- Make sure that the gifts of clothing you wrap up are wrapped in compassion — make sure that they are created with only faux fur or imitation suede or mock leather — these industries are far too cruel.

Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary is a 501c3 non-profit organization that relies on the generosity of kind folks who believe in our animal rescue efforts.

Please consider making a difference by sending a donation to help spread compassion and the save the life of a neglected, abused or abandoned farm animal today.

DONATION INFORMATION

I'd like to send a donation at this time of

☐\$25 ☐\$35 ☐\$55 ☐\$75 ☐\$125 ☐\$_____other

☐ Please use this donation where it is needed the most.

☐ I'd like my donation to be in memory of my beloved pet

_____ (name), a _____ (type of animal), who has crossed the Rainbow Bridge

☐ Please add me to your mailing list.

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☐ Please send me a tax-deductible receipt for my donation.

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CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ PHONE _____

**Return to Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, Inc.
5623 New Milford Rd., Ravenna, Oh 44266**

You can sign up to receive occasional sanctuary news updates through e-mail. Log onto our website at www.happytrailsfarm.org and register to receive farm news!

Happy Trails rescue programs are funded by your kind and generous donations. Many thanks for your support and kindness!

- Choose heart-healthy foods to serve your guests that are not animal-based. Many soy-based and alternative products are available at your local grocery store, and specialty stores like the Mustard Seed or Seven Grains are a shoppers paradise for foods that have no animal ingredients.

- Be careful not to make holiday donations to companies that continue to research and test on animals. Many companies have switched over to modern-day testing protocols, using more sophisticated and more accurate technology to handle their research.

Ask your favorite charity to provide you with this information.

You can find entire lists of animal-friendly companies, business, and charitable organizations at the following websites:

- <http://search.caringconsumer.com/>

- <http://www.astrostar.com/DO-NOT-Test.htm>

- <http://www.aavs.org/shoppingGuide.php>

- <http://www.humaneseal.org/> (for humane charities)



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We Love Happy Endings...

The rumor about the grass always being greener on the other side of the fence had apparently worked its way into the social circle of a group of Happy Trails pigs.

Four pastel-pink farm piggies managed to take apart their fence, and once out on the other side of their yard area, separated in order to explore the rest of sanctuary much quicker and easier. Mona Lisa trotted up front and visited the pot belly pigs, Nacho the rooster, the geese, the ducks, and even George the pig. Celita went the other way, and visited the Belgian horses and Barney the Standard-bred out back in the woods. Garfunkle decided to check out “the greener grass” over at our neighbor’s house and explored their

yard thoroughly, and Cisco headed through the *other* neighbor’s yard and was contemplating visiting the junkyard when I spotted the speeding blur of pink whizzing by.

Thankfully, all four piggies ended up safe and sound back in their spacious but uneventful yard at Happy Trails, and then they compared notes as to the treasures they discovered. Mona Lisa, being very food motivated, was more than happy to be sweet-talked with a bucket of grain by Russ Fisher, Happy Trails Co-founder. The big pink piggy swore that they would not attempt a breakout ever again... or at least until next week.



THE END