

MFMN was founded by Connie Hendrix, who lives on the property, and keeps a watchful eye on all of the animals throughout the day and night.



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s you drive down the bumpy gravel road with the dust flying up from your tires, you come around a bend in the road and there they are. You start to see them. Horses! Lots of them. A whole herd of them. Grazing on hay bales and pasture grass. Some of them have already started to hang around the feeding pens, waiting for you to open the gates to the pens and let them in. As you drive up the gravel driveway, you start seeing the other inhabitants, peacocks, chickens, ducks, barn cats, a pot-belly pig and a miniature donkey. As you get out of the car, you are greeted by two old geldings, Champ and Durango. They start walking ahead to the barn, because they know that they will be the first ones fed. You have to move them away from the feed room door to get to the grain bins, gleaming metal trashcans, with the name of the feed written on each of them in magic marker. The feed room was recently added to the barn, to help keep the raccoons out of the feed and give the volunteers a place to mix the feed, supplements, soaked alfalfa cubes and any medications that are listed on an individual index card for each horse.


This is the Missouri Forget Me Not Horse Rescue and Sanctuary in Linn Creek, Missouri. It was founded by Connie Hendrix, who lives on the property, and keeps a watchful eye on all of the animals throughout the day and night. Connie started taking in horses many years ago, that had been abandoned or neglected by their owners. In 2011, she was contacted by law enforcement to help rescue four starved horses. Two of the horses were down. She enlisted the help of Donna Ogle and some other friends, and they were able to save three of the horses. The other one didn't make it. Realizing that they couldn't afford to care for all of the horses they were taking in, they decided to apply for 501(c)3 status so they could accept donations and help more horses.

Since 2011, MFMN has taken in 419 horses, mules and donkeys and 240 of these were adopted by approved homes through the end of 2017. The Sanctuary houses around 65 horses with another 20 at Donna's property just up the road. Another 50 horses are in a network of foster homes in the surrounding community. Many of the horses at the Sanctuary are permanent residents because of age or medical condition. Several of these permanent residents are in their mid-thirties. Shiloh is one of them. He came to us in 2015, after spending his

Missouri Forget Me Not Horse Rescue and Sanctuary

Linn Creek, Missouri

By Roxie Nieroda



entire life with his owner, who was no longer able to care for him. He is 35 years old. He is picky about his food, so he is given apples, carrots, lettuce and soaked alfalfa cubes with his Equine Senior grain. All of the horses are fed in paddocks, or feeding pens, away from other horses, so that their food intake can be monitored and to keep other horses from moving them off their feed. Horses like Shiloh take a long time to eat. He is usually the first one fed and the last one to finish eating.

Many of the horses that MFMN takes in are neglected and under-weight when they arrive. Many are also in need of medical care, especially for founder and other lameness issues. The horses are evaluated when they arrive and a health plan is developed to restore them physically and mentally for a new life. If the horse can be ridden, then MFMN pays to have the horse trained, so that it can be adopted. Once a horse is adopted, it can never be sent to an auction barn, or given away. It must be returned to MFMN if the adopter no longer wants the horse. This protects the horse from winding up in the slaughter pipe-line.

The Sanctuary still gets calls from law enforcement and works with them to rescue horses that are in perilous situations. It takes in all breeds of horses, including some mules and donkeys. All stallions are gelded upon arrival, and a no breeding policy is included in any adoption or foster agreement. Veterinarian services are a large expense for the Sanctuary, as well as, farrier care. There are usually two or three horses in stalls in the barn at any given time that are recovering from surgery or rehabilitating from some medical issue, requiring stall rest. That Sanctuary also has a dry lot for

or foundered horses.

MFMN became the only Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS) accredited horse sanctuary in Missouri in 2017. This was a great accomplishment and attests to the great work that is done by the all-volunteer Board and staff that feeds and cares for the horses. "The wonderful volunteers are our greatest asset," stated Connie Hendrix. "If it wasn't for them and our generous donors, who love and care about abused and neglected horses, the Sanctuary wouldn't be here, and I hate to think what would have happened to all of these beautiful animals."



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MFMN is planning an exciting 3-day event from April 27-29, 2018. Hosted by the Camdenton Saddle Club and Easy Rider 4-H this fundraising benefit combines a celebration that enters us into the ASPCA's Help A Horse Day Contest and is being held in conjunction with our Horse Adoption Jamboree. We will showcase horses that are available for adoption and it gives the wonderful people who have adopted MFMN horses in the past, the opportunity to show them off.

The event starts on Friday evening with the Adopted Horses Showcase and Bar-B-Q at the Rolling Hills Ranch. On Saturday the Camdenton Saddle Club will be conducting a horse show, open to all riders, with special classes for the MFMN adopted horses. There will also be a clinic, where trainers will introduce the MFMN adoptable horses. Sunday begins with a Cowboy Prayer service and breakfast followed by a Poker Ride and Trail Obstacle Challenge. We will also have activities for the cowgirls and cowboys that are too young to ride in the events. Food and drinks are available for purchase, and primitive campsites with water are available for campers on all 3 days. Temporary stalls are also available for the horses.



Durango (top) upon arrival at MFMN, and after returning to health.

"We have some wonderful horses that are trained and waiting to be adopted."

Missouri Forget-Me-Not Volunteers



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"We have some wonderful horses that are trained and waiting to be adopted. This event is a great opportunity to get a close up look at our adoptable horses, talk to the trainer, and find that special horse for trail riding this summer", states Connie. "Potential adopters can meet other people who have adopted our horses, see their horses and hear their experiences. Increasing the number of horse adoptions is the goal of this ASPCA contest, and we believe that this event and others around the country will raise awareness of the plight of abandoned and surrendered horses. These horses are good, sound horses that have been put at-risk by their owners through no fault of their own. They deserve to have a second chance with someone who can enjoy them and value them for the beautiful animals that they are".

Great opportunities are available for corporate sponsors and vendor booths for this event. Please contact Donna Ogle at 573-745-1448 or email her at donna@missouriforgetmenot.com for more information.

For more information on Missouri Forget-Me-Not Horse Rescue and Sanctuary visit www.missouriforgetmenot.org.





2018 Adoption Jambarree

3 Day Event
April 27, 28 & 29



271 Hayburner Ranch Rd
Camdenton, MO



Friday Evening: SHOW-ME Your Rescue Showcase!
Ride, BBQ & Entertainment.

Saturday: Horseshow (Trophies, Rosettes & Prizes) Open fun show for all ages & horses. Trainer's Showcase of horses available for adoption.

Sunday: Poker Trail Ride & Trail Obstacle Challenge- CASH PRIZES!!!
Fun activities for kids.

Pony Rides - Open Concession

Overnight Stalls & Primitive Campsites (limited)

Sponsorship Opportunities

Vendor Booths Available

Horse show
hosted by:



For more information visit

www.missouriforgetmenot.org

Or call Donna at (573)745-1448

donna@missouriforgetmenot.com

