



THOROUGHBRED ATHLETES

**Honoring their past...
While preparing for
their future.**



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Our Mission

Thoroughbred Athletes, Inc. is a 501c3 organization located in Guthrie, Oklahoma. We are the first and only all Thoroughbred retraining program in the state. Our mission began in an effort to help retired racehorses find new careers and prevent them from situations that may lead to neglect, starvation or slaughter.

It is our goal to rehabilitate, retrain and re-home off-track Thoroughbreds. By teaching our horses a new skill set, we are able to provide them with a future after their work on the track is complete. Whether you are looking for a show horse or a just a loyal riding companion, we are certain that you can find what you are looking for here at Thoroughbred Athletes, Inc.



Learn more about Thoroughbred Athletes...

Stay up to date about new horses, current adoptions and upcoming events by visiting our website at www.thoroughbred-athletes.com or find us on Facebook.

Thoroughbred Athletes is happy to announce that we have received three very generous grants from the Brennan Foundation, ASPCA and TCA (Thoroughbred Charities of America), that our horses will greatly benefit from!



Lynn's Corner

LYNN SULLIVAN:

Founder of Thoroughbred Athletes, Inc.

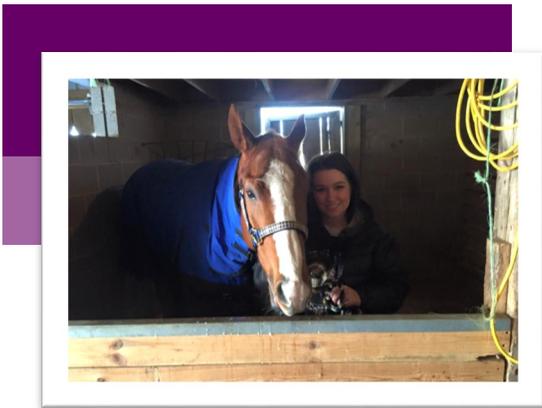
In this edition of our newsletter, I would like to take the time to focus on the volunteers that keep this program running. From the printed material, signs and newsletters, sponsorships for our events, grants and requirements, to transporting, and the daily labor of horse training and barn maintenance we would not be able to reach the goals we have set without the dedication of our volunteers. There is an unending stream of tasks around here on a daily basis, and although this program was started by me alone I certainly cannot take credit for our success! Without the help and support of dedicated people that believe in what we do, many horses would not get the chance for a new career. The daily operations of a facility such as this would make the average person tired just observing (as I have been told many times!) We have a very structured daily schedule and routine designed for the comfort and safety of the horse, (not the people carrying it out) and as many of you know....it's not easy caring for over 20 horses the way I want it done!



I would like to say thank you to the people that give us their time and energy to make these horses happy. I've been told many times by the farriers, vets, equine dentists and other professionals that come here to work on our horses, that they are impressed with the manners and quality of care that is so obvious in each one. This makes me very proud to have all of you on this team. We have one goal....to give retired thoroughbreds a chance at a new career. We will do what it takes for each individual to make that happen. Those of you that volunteer your time with us know how hard this can be.

A simple thank you will never be enough, but I want each of you to know that you are valued beyond any price

Rehabilitate - Retrain - Rehome



Recent Adoptions

Not only have we succeeded in many adoptions recently, we have helped a few horses find new homes straight out of the feedlot or kill pen. We owe it to all of our supporters that come together to make each rescue and adoption possible.

OOPSVILLE SLEW

Adopted by Purina Animal Nutrition.

MY SIS KRIS

Adopted by Purina Animal Nutrition.

BRASSY'S DELIGHT

Adopted by Jan Emory, Oklahoma.

Picked up from feedlot.

GOOD TIMES BILL

Adopted by Purina Animal Nutrition.

Picked up from auction.

MZ STAKES

Adopted by he Babb Family, Mississippi.

KNOW NO SOMERSET

Adopted by Lindsey Smith, Texas.

Picked up from feedlot.

TIMELY PREACHER

Adopted by Sarah Pursell Dalton.

BRASSY CASH

Adopted by Purina Animal Nutrition.

Picked up from feedlot.

UNOSHILOH

Adopted by Colleen Wells, Texas.

FOOLISH WAR

Adopted by Halle Jones, Ohio.

(pictured above)

ADOPTION UPDATE

Laura & David Harris
Bob Fudge, Catplease,
& Vee One Rotate



We have adopted three great horses from Thoroughbred Athletes. Vee One Rotate came last summer while we were living in Virginia. This spring, we adopted Bob Fudge and Catplease.

Riding during the rainy season was hit and miss, but the boys are all doing well and are quick learners. Bob Fudge and Vee competed for the first time at the Thoroughbred Athletes Benefit Horse Show. "Bobby" and Vee has their next outing at the Gallery Farm combined test in April. This was their first dressage test and cross-country course, which they completed successfully.

Bobby then did his first USEA recognized horse trial at Feather Creek in Norman. He finished 5th in his Beginner Novice section, which earned him a qualifying score toward the American Eventing Championships this fall. He is currently schooling 3' and doing wonderfully.

Vee was unfortunately sidelined by a hoof injury after Gallery Farm earlier this season, but he is now sound and ready to get back to work. He has a big personality and loves to go out and socialize!

Catplease has been in light work at home, and is looking fat and shiny. He had his first official dressage lesson with Laurie Hedlund earlier last month. He is a very smart, willing horse and very eager to please so I hope to get him out to some schooling shows soon.

We can't say enough good things about all of these horses. They are all good-natured, honest, and enjoying learning their new careers. AND they are talented! We recommend Thoroughbred Athletes to anyone looking for a horse, whether it is for competition or pleasure riding!

Meet Our Horse of the Month: JIGGER BOSS

Jiggerboss is a stout, well built chestnut gelding with a calm temperament and will to please. He is a 2011 model with a great mindset. He has gone both English and Western, as well as been tried over some low fences. Come check him out– he may be just what you are looking for!



WORK TO RIDE PROGRAM

Are you an avid horse lover but don't have a horse?

Do you wish you could ride more often?

Are you an experienced horse person?

If you answered yes to any of these questions and aren't afraid of getting your hands dirty, then our Work to Ride program may be just for you. In exchange for helping with daily tasks and all of the less glamorous parts of horse ownership, we offer qualified equestrians an opportunity to spend more time in the saddle. Want more details???

Contact us today at lynn@thoroughbred-athletes.com



Volunteer Spotlight: MAEGAN THIBODEAU

After meeting Maegan, we knew she was a dedicated equestrian. She has been taking her high school classes online so she can have more time for horses (She will be a senior this year!) and spends her free time learning anything she can about horses.

She joined our team in November of 2014 when a friend brought her to the farm and started out as most volunteers do– cleaning stalls, washing buckets, grooming horses, and helping Juan out during daily chores. Once her driver's license was in hand, she couldn't help but keep coming out! "I like working with not just the horses, but Juan and Lynn and the other volunteers I have met through the program. Horses are my passion and I love being a part of giving these rescues a second chance."

Maegan isn't new to the rescue scene, though. Her first horse came from a man that pulled him from a south-bound slaughter truck when she 10. "I learned many lessons from him and I went on to rescue a horse from a life in a stall, and bought an OTTB!" With a lifetime of riding under her belt, Maegan started showing in hunter/jumpers during the past show season.

This month, on June 6th, Maegan came to the aid of a beautiful grey OTTB. When Lynn came across the beautiful but skinny grey, she turned to Facebook. In less than 30 minutes, Maegan found a way to have him picked up then next afternoon, and gave him his new barn name– Prince Charming. Hopefully later this year there will be an article about their accomplishments and growth together after a close-call ending.

Maegan played a major role in helping out at the Sport Of Kings Challenge. She was Laine Ashker's judge assistant for the flat class division, was part of the jump crew, set up the dressage arena, worked the t-shirt booth, and was major help to Lynn loading jumps the day after everyone left.

We couldn't ask for better volunteers at Thoroughbred Athletes. These people make our mission possible by giving their time and skills to our program. What do they get in return? Maegan summed that question up for anyone wanting the answer. "No matter how stressful, crazy, and just ridiculous life gets, when I go out to Thoroughbred Athletes, it just brightens my whole day and outlook on everything. It makes me feel good knowing I helped someone. I feel like Thoroughbred Athletes is extended family!"

HORSES CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR

CHA CHA BROOKY

15.3hh, 2010 bay mare. Starting under saddle soon.

EASTER SKYE

15.3hh, 2010 bay mare. Starting under saddle soon.

SHARP DOT

2010 bay gelding. Has been started under saddle and is available.

EXTENDED FORECAST

2005 bay mare. Starting under saddle soon as she was just released from quarantine.

HENRY SUNSHINE

2006 bay gelding. Currently in rehab, but has been in training under saddle

SUGAR GHOST

16.2hh, 2009 bay mare. Has been started on barrels and English and is available.

HERE COMES BUCKY

2009 gray gelding. Currently in rehab, but will be started soon!

JIGGER BOSS

15.3hh, 2011 chestnut gelding. Currently in training under saddle and available.

TELLING WAYS

2010 bay gelding. Has recovered from rehab and will be started under saddle soon.

LADY

16hh, 2005 flashy bay mare.

LANCELOT

2012 gray gelding. Currently in training and available!

TWO STEPPIN' OKIE

16hh, 2010 chestnut mare. Has been in training over fences as well as some western and is available.

MAMPO

2010 bay gelding. Currently in training under saddle and available.

ON THE MARQ

15.3hh, 2006 chromie chestnut mare. Currently in training under saddle and available.

WAKISWIND

2010 gray mare. She is currently in quarantine, but will be started soon.

OUR DARK KINGHT

2007 bay gelding. Available as companion horse only.

PUNY HE AIN'T

2010 flashy chestnut gelding. Currently in rehab, but has been under saddle.

WILLINGLY

2010 bay gelding. Is in training under saddle and will be available soon.

RIO

2012 bay gelding. Has been under saddle and is available.

RIVER COMMANDER

15.3hh, 2011 chromie chestnut mare. Starting under saddle soon.

SWEET LIL BELLA

2008 bay mare.

#TheSportOfKingsHasTheSelfieQueen

Our wonderful clinician, Laine Ashker, is known throughout the eventing world for being the "Selfie Queen." Several of our contestants took the opportunity to take their selfies with her during the show and banquet! We gathered several of them for everyone else to enjoy!



Miranda Noyes



Lucy Greenawalt



Casey Sendek



Steuart Pittman even got in on his first selfie!



Lynn Sullivan



Teal Ridge Eventing



Edee Black



We seek forever homes for ALL of the horses in our care!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Join us in our pledge to rehabilitate, retrain and rehome off-track thoroughbreds.



All retired racehorses deserve a second chance!

The 4th Annual Sport Of Kings Challenge!

On June 19th, we kicked off the start of an incredible weekend at Remington Park with a 6-hour, 3 session clinic with none other than the one and only, Lainey Ashker. The clinic was full with 5 horse and rider combinations in each session, starting with training level, and graduating down to elementary level. Every rider walked out with a smile on their face and pats to their horses for being troopers over gridwork that wasn't exactly easy.

Day two consisted of dressage tests that included riders for the eventing derby, classical dressage, and western dressage that was judged by Robin Hessel. Stadium jumping took place on the front stretch of the track for the eventing derby, where both Stuart Pittman and Lainey Ashker kept time scored penalties. The rider and horse pair jumped their course, then walked across the turf track, to pick their time back up and navigate the cross-country course that was built by David Lesher and his volunteer group of minions.

That afternoon, hunter and western pairs took to the backside ring to be judged in flat classes by Lainey. Next, 5 horses competed in a version of Stuart Pittman's "America's Most Wanted Thoroughbred", "Oklahoma's Most Wanted Thoroughbred". Hugo's boy and Mallory Stiver took home the honor.

Next, teams competed for points in the Gambler's Choice Jumper Challenge. Certain jumps were worth more than others, and the class included a 20 point 3'9" fence option after the allotted time to make or break a competitor's score. Sage Rasmussen won the challenge with a whopping 120 points and an incredible ride.

Following the challenge, people gathered for the silent auction and gala where dinner was served by Remington and both Stuart Pittman and Lainey Ashker had short speeches. "I had never judged a western or hunter class before. I had fun making them earn their ribbons, and my dressage side came out in me," mentioned Ashker in her speech.

Day three took place entirely on the front stretch for spectators. Food trucks

came out, as well as some fun exotic animals for the crowd to hold, pet, and enjoy! The morning began with the green hunter over fences division. Stuart Pittman judged the day's classes. Next up was the low and high jumper division, where competitors raced the clock while also having to keep the fences up. Champions on the weekend's stakes classes took home a prize and a beautiful neck ribbon! The day closed out with low and high hunter over fences classes where the goal is for the horse and rider to look not only effortless, but calm and steady through a course of 8 jumps.

To wrap up the show, Loren McDougal created a beautiful purple and gold flower blanket with the Sport Of Kings logo in the center that was in Remington's winner's circle. Competitors brought their ribbons with their horse to take photos in a place where the majority of them once stood after winning a race. Horses like Zee Oh Six knew just how to pose with the flower blanket after 12 trips to the circle during his previous career. This show flaunted the incredible versatility of not just off the track thoroughbreds, but quarter horses and paints that once raced as well!

Though the show may have only lasted three days, volunteers were hard at work months in advance to prepare for the show. Several days were spent at Remington setting up jumps, cross country courses, decorations, etc., before horses moved in Friday. Thoroughbred Athletes would like to thank every volunteer that put in time, energy, and their skills to make this show happen. It is getting better every year, and we would like to thank everyone for their overwhelming support. We hope to see everyone and more at our next show!