



Compassion Ranch & Institute

Photos-Progress-People-Plan News / Edited by Dr. David Dyson, Trustee

Mission

1. **Compassion Ranch** (2008/2020-): care of animals, student development, education;
2. **Patriotism in Action** (2001-): teach *Veterans Day Started in Alabama, Pledge of Allegiance*, plus care for retired military equines from The US Army at Arlington National Cemetery;
3. **Life Leadership** (1991-): plan for life, personal leadership, character traits *Courage, Compassion, Patriotism, Perseverance*...mandated in Alabama schools since 1995.



Progress June 1-30

Pages 1-3 Photos / 3-7 Progress-People-Plans-Possibilities

Memorial Day Commemoration and Open House



We postponed our Memorial Day commemoration twice because of rain but the third time worked for us to have a meaningful and enjoyable experience.

Trip to Transport Reuben and Rowdy to Sweet Home Alabama

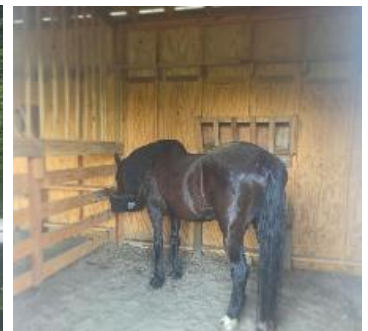
2 more Military Working Equines Retired from Arlington National Cemetery joined Compassion Ranch



Horses pulled a caisson carrying a flag-draped casket holding green beret soldier [Mike Goble](#) to his grave at [Arlington National Cemetery](#). Fellow [Green Beret Rick Cleverdon](#) adopted “wheel horses” (2 in front of the wagon) [Reuben and Rowdy](#) when they retired. They are black Percheron-cross senior horses of about 1300 pounds each with estimated ages 28 and 25.

Rick learned he has cancer and wants to protect his family and the horses. He invited [Compassion Ranch](#) to adopt the horses to provide a caring home.

The weekend before Independence Day weekend we commuted 12 hours to Virginia and transported Reuben and Rowdy back to *Sweet Home Alabama* in a 16 hour journey. [Rick](#), [Diani](#), and their daughter, plus dogs and farm animals, gave us great hospitality plus helped us depart with gifts of hay and supplies for the horses.





Thank you for nominating and/or voting for us.

Thanks to those who have supported with donations, volunteerism, or advocacy to help us get here, better prepared for fulfilling the next level of service and security.

Now, we need you more than ever

to improve to the next level for care of animals, development of students, and service to our state.

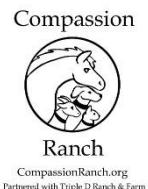
A few highlights of our Non-Profit Program Progress so far

2017/2020 – [Compassion Ranch](#). Seeds of this calling started 2008 adopting Indy from people who did not want him. I moved to this farm 2017, establishing Triple D Ranch & Farm, adding rescued cats and dogs plus the Bryant Family horses. We started hosting ministries and classes of students and giving shelter to rescued horses. We adopted the name, *Compassion Ranch*, 2020.

Public service includes care of animals and including them teaching [character traits](#) mandated in Alabama schools: *courage, patriotism, compassion*. We host ranch experiences with rescued and adopted horses. Resources printed and online donated to Alabama Social Studies teachers. [The US Army did a site visit and approved us to adopt retired Military Working Equines Hank and Lincoln](#). Hank was the riderless horse for the funeral of [Gen. Colin Powell](#) and first from Arlington to walk in the [National Veterans Day Parade](#). We adopted [Lancelot and Braveheart](#) after rescue by Chilton County deputies. We work on root causes for abandonment of animals through experiences here and teaching. Employ/coach 6 teen home school students 4-5 hours weekly.

2025 – advised the Governor’s Council on Curriculum in cooperation with [Alabama Social Studies](#). They adopted our proposal to teach *America’s Veterans Day Started in Alabama.... Freedom lives* at a higher level because of veterans and civil rights so students have *freedom to flourish*. We provide a web site www.VeteransDayFoundingEducation.us with free resources for teachers, students, veterans. Adopted 5 horses from Mobile, plus a dog and a cat. Voted *Best in Alabama Honorable Mention*.

2026 – Adopted [Rocky and Brogan](#). Served at [AU Vet Fest](#). Voted *Best in Alabama* for animal sanctuaries and shelters. Hosted a [Spring Open House](#) and a [Memorial Day commemoration](#). Transported [Reuben and Rowdy](#) from Virginia to Sweet Home Alabama....



Some of our Next Level Goals

1. Improve care for animals: trimming, treatments, grooming...
2. Care of land – removal of dead trees, limbs...building fencing...harvesting spring water for horses, ponds...
3. Hangar Storage Barn ready for horse shelter, hay storage...
4. Pavilion Barn to provide covered space for events, stalls for Arlington horses, kitchen, gallery, lab...
5. Loft apartments and cabins for guests....

More Animals and Spaces

Teddy, our most senior dog, is still with us, enjoying life a little more often from inside.



Progress and People

New Treasure Donated

A Home for Every Horse: Booklet of coupons to purchase Purina horse feeds at \$20 off retail.
Caring Foundation of Blue Cross Blue Shield awarded a grant that helped us operate 1-2 months.
Laura Bynum Tucker Trust: Grant supports animal food and student help.

Treasure Donated by Partners Monthly or Often

Anonymous (Texas): mails a check monthly to help us buy feeds, plus she sends treats.
Anonymous: donates *"In Loving Memory of Anna Nall."*
Joyce Cochran: *"use this check where you see the need."*
John Decker (Georgia): co-sponsors **Indy (Indian Legend)** to help with feed and care via bank autopay.
Dawn Dixon (Mississippi): supplements to help Annie plus more with diet and skin care.
David Dyson: use of land, equipment, facilities, work as trustee-manager-ranch hand, plus \$.
Lutavia Heaton: "most pressing need."
Ramona Price: sponsors food for **Major, July, and Bendi.**
Celeste Rodgers: sponsors food for cats **Daggers, Nat, Scarlet.**
Caroline Uhl (Arizona): sponsors food for **Tessee** (rescued in Tennessee as an abandoned kitten).
Carol Schaufhausen: sends cans of wet cat food, adds donations, advises on cat care.
United Pet Care & Dr. Zeke Zekoff (Ohio): truck load keeps helping us use items and donate.

Time Donated

Alabama Wildlife Center: Advised on duck care for babies to help us advise a care giver.
Priscilla Daly: led efforts to invite **Alabama Power Foundation** to visit and pledge support.
Diamond Dodson: grooms horses & dogs. She visited the farm both days while gone to Virginia.
Ray Ezell installed a donated ceiling fan on our front porch.
Friends: of Cats & Dogs: Peggy Cropp helped us assist a lady with cats needing surgeries.
Preston Hard: visited, distributed our donated AU and AL merch to **VFW** members and kids.
Genesis Mattie: cooked and managed our picnic for Memorial Day – hot dogs, marshmallows...
Dr. Doug Meckes: advising us on animal care and connections to **Auburn University Vet School.**
Ovie Powell and Katelyn Ayres: help with projects, animal care, and events.
Ramona Price: visits Major and Ripley weekly, grooms, and feeds, plus cares for Bendi.
Kevin Reagor, Home Depot: helped cut limbs from a fallen tree on top of our storage barn.
Shelby Humane Society, Saundra Ivey: advising on dog tests and treatments for heart worms.
Laura Tucker: helped with the trip to get **Reuben and Rowdy.**
Temple Wells: made us a beautiful new patriotic wreath.

A Few Actions Taken

50 hour trip, 28 hours driving, to bring home Reuben and Rowdy.
Flea treatments provided for 10 dogs.
GPS tracker re-added for Major. Chief already had one.
Dewormer treatments: Rocky and Brogan...
Grooming coats: Beau, more dogs...
Auburn and Alabama fan merch donated to dog and cat rescue in Selma.
Caregivers seeking help: advise and assist when we can.



We have Auburn and Alabama fan merch to donate,
preferably to the universities for students or donors, or to nonprofits who can give to donors, helpers,
or donors to help our animals, students, and programs.

Land Improved by Triple D Ranch & Farm for Compassion Ranch

Hangar (storage barn):

- ☆ shed roof smashed by huge tree. Tree removed, seeking materials...
- ☆ Ceiling over food and supplies in storage ripped open, now repaired.
- ☆ Donated supplies to shelters & caregivers to help and clear space.



Ranch Entrance:

- ☆ Wood gates stained.

Farmhouse

- ☆ Ceiling fan donated by Temple Wells, installed by Ray Ezell.
- ☆ Wreath made by Temple Wells.



South Pasture:

- ☆ Pond deepened to collect natural water for watering horses.
- ☆ Started another watering hole to provide spring water.
- ☆ Acquired pipes to install from spring water to watering hole.

Bryant Barn:

- ☆ Cleaned stalls, troughs weekly.
- ☆ Repaired damaged wall in center section used by horses.
- ☆ Restored ladder storage rack.

North Barn & Pasture:

- ☆ Burning rotten wood off old fence to recycle the metal.

Lower Pond:

- ☆ Cleared more invasive saplings off the island so you can enjoy the bench and table.

Front Corrals & Homestead Entrance:

- ☆ Compassion Corral: remove xl oak limb that fell on fence.
- ☆ Fence fortified to secure dogs from digging under.
- ☆ Front corral/yard: grass cut, weed eat, limbs and sticks.

Orchard Barn and Pasture:

- ☆ Roadside Paddock: repaired fence to protect pig and dogs.
- ☆ Plums came and went, and now apples are growing.



Mission: To provide land and facilities for animals, students, patriots, and programs of Compassion Ranch and Institute.

(free lease for land, facilities, equipment...donated by Triple D Ranch & Farm).

Triple D provides the land. Donations to the nonprofit pay for animal feed and care, students, programs, services.



Partners Invited to Improve Care and Capacity

Menu: you are invited to look for at least one action we can take together.

Recurring Funding Needed

- Horses: deworming and hoof trims more often.
- Dogs: checkups and medicine for heartworms plus flea protection. Food donated this year.
- Cats: dry food (wet food is donated).
- Rainbow Bridge Watch List: extra TLC for seniors, plus respectful end of life care.
- Student workers: sponsor teens to help clean troughs, bowls, spaces, prep events....
- Carpenter: build and repair stalls, gates, doors, fences, vehicle repairs....

Volunteer and Community Service Projects

- Farrier: caring and competent to trim and touch up hooves (barefoot).
- Land clearance labor: limbs on ground cleared to stumps to burn & improve pasture grass.
- Veterinarian: dedicated to animals in nonprofits to advise and serve...
- Vet tech: advise and assist guiding on treatments for worms, fleas, flies...
- Grooming: assist groomer to brush coats and manes, bathe, help with skin care.
- Web & tech: 1-2+ hours weekly – advise and assist with equipment, software...
- Grant coordinator: boost funding for animals, students, programs, shelters.
- Advocates: share our purpose/plans/progress with people who may be looking for us.

Items Needed you or your company may no longer need to donate or discount

- Saddle stands (wood or metal) to support kids/guests to sit on saddles during programs.
- Hoof files and nippers.
- Horse water trough.
- Backhoe or excavator.

Construction to Build, Repair, and Add Capacity

- Arlington Horse Pasture Fence: 2000 linear feet of wood posts, rails...
- Pavilion Barn: covered arena for events plus hay storage for 1 year food security.
- Hangar Barn: shed roof, interior ceiling fan, parking space for equipment, gravel for road.
- Bryant Barn: ceiling fans for horses, sink, bathroom...for volunteers, deck for cats and people.
- Old Hog Barn: repurposed to shelter horses, maybe caregivers plus dogs and cats.
- Back pasture: fence built and repaired around 12 acres so horses can roam and graze.

Perhaps you are inspired to help or you *may know an action-oriented*

[]foundation []patriot []veteran organization []company

and introduce us to explore if we match.

Compassion



Ranch

CompassionRanch.org
Partnered with Triple D Ranch & Farm

Options to Help

Donations to Compassion Ranch and Institute (501 c3)
pay for feeds, students, services, operating.

Donate: Once Monthly Recurring Annual Recurring Legacy/will
animal care student work and development shelters
honor/remember a person or animal you miss.

Silver
Transparency
2026

Candid.

Online Address

www.CompassionRanch.org/Donate

Donors typically use the web site with PayPal or Venmo, send mail, or bank auto pay.

PayPal reduced fees on donations to us to 49 cents + 1.99%.

Postal Address for Mail / Bank Autopay / Shipping Goods

Compassion Ranch
354 County Road 33
Calera, Alabama 35040

Some prefer to ship food/supplies for delivery from WalMart, Chewy, Amazon....

Options to Influence

1. **Partner** sponsor an animal \$1-10 per day to sustain food, care, shelter security.
2. **Donate** for *where the need is greatest*.
3. **Visit/see** what you are supporting, possibilities to improve, and add TLC for an animal.
4. **Forward our info & advocate us** to friends, foundations...looking for a mission like ours.
5. **Request a call**, comment, or suggest: Doc@CompassionRanch.org
6. **Add our program to your will** to leave a legacy and help our sanctuary and programs sustain.
7. **Request** the latest edition of our docs to inform you of actions and intentions:

Brochure (pics & summary) Plan This Year

Progress News Last Month Progress Last Year

VOTED BEST of ALABAMA 2026!



THE GUIDE TO
ALABAMA
GuidetoAlabama.com

Our Vision for Multiplying Care

People who care about animals, student development, and public service donate treasure so we can provide.

Compassion Ranch and Institute is a 501c3 nonprofit approved for charitable donations (63-1091241).

Personal Leadership (1991/1992-); Patriotism in Action (2001-); Compassion Ranch (2008/2020-).