

Old Friends

Thoroughbred Retirement in Georgetown, Kentucky

Accredited by Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance (TAA)



Fall / Winter 2019

A Message from Michael Blowen

As everyone knows, this has been a particularly tough year for our sport. At least it has led to some attempts at reducing the dangers to our human and equine athletes. But there is a bright light. Aftercare.

The efforts led by the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance (TAA), the Thoroughbred Charities of America (TCA), the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation (TRF), New Vocations, Our Mims, After the Finish Line, and dozens of others, including Old Friends, are a great illustration of how the sport and its fans have given top priority to these great athletes. In fact, I think if the aftercare people were put in charge of the racing care, things would get a lot better, a lot sooner. (Just for the record, I'm not interested in the job. I've got the best job on the planet.)

This year has been really great for Old Friends. From providing a spot for 10 new Old Friends to be greeted by 20,000 visitors, to working on future expansion to do more of the same. We've partnered with The Kentucky Castle for some very successful tours and events. Our four-year partnership with Breeders' Cup, Maker's Mark, and the Champions for Charity campaign continues, this year honoring Mike Smith with a great commemorative bottle. And, we're working on more sponsorships and relationships to improve the financial picture.

Thanks to all of our supporters for your diligent, regular support. The aftercare picture would be lot different if it wasn't for you. Also this year, many owners stepped up to the plate to both retire their horses sound ... think Soi Phet, Hogy, Slim Shadey, Diversify...and support them with significant donations and visitations.

Personally, I'm very grateful. At 72, it's particularly wonderful to keep looking forward. In 2020, the Breeders' Cup will be back at Keeneland and we can

showcase our all-star line-up of Breeders' Cup winners and give more thanks to the Breeders' Cup for their long-time endorsement of our efforts.

If our past performances continue to predict the future, it'll be the best year in the 16-year history of Old Friends. Many of you have been with us every step on the way. Thank you so much for believing in our vision, believing in our retirees, and for making all of it possible.



Michael Blowen
President & Founder



© Laura Battles Photo

Michael discovers new-found chiropractic skills working with War Emblem

Daily Racing Form/Old Friends 2020 Magazine Has Arrived!

- Casting Call
- Three Generations of Silver Charm
- Kings of New York
- The Brilliance of Einstein
- Boys of Summer
- Little Silver Charm
- The Catbird's Seat
- Barbara Livingston photos
- . . . and more!

\$10

To order

Call: 502-863-1775

Web: oldfriendsequine.org



Michael

Meet Our New Old Friends

Your generosity has enabled us to welcome **6(!)** deserving horses to Old Friends in the last three months! They come from many circumstances, with one thing in common— your commitment has helped make the dignified retirement they deserve a reality.

We are excited to introduce you to:



© Laura Battles Photo

Diversify (6) is a Grade One winner of the Whitney and Jockey Club Gold Cup and earned \$1,989,425.



© Laura Battles Photo

Hogy (10), multiple graded stakes winner and earner of \$1,339,782.



© Laura Battles Photo

Soi Phet (11), a California legend, stakes winner, graded stakes-placed and earner of \$1,023,197.



© Carole Oates Photo

Slim Shadey (11) earned \$1,278,855 and multiple graded stakes racing in the U.S. Ireland, and the U.K.



© Laura Battles Photo

Right to Vote (10) is a graded stakes winner of over \$500,000. Appropriately, he arrived at Old Friends on the 4th of July.



© Old Friends Photo

Soldat (11), our newest Old Friend, is a multiple graded stakes winner of over \$600,000.



*Sadly, we have said
farewell to
Beau Cashin In.
We were honored
to serve him.*



© Laura Battles Photo

Stalking Slim Shadey

by Cynthia Grisolia

Most horses just come to Old Friends naturally when their careers are over. Others, on occasion, have to be stalked. Like in the case of Slim Shadey.

The 11-year-old Slim arrived at Old Friends in August of 2019. But his journey to a well-earned retirement was, well, a bit circuitous. A two-time graded-stakes winner, Slim Shadey—by 2001 Breeders' Cup Mile winner Val Royal (FR) out of the Chief's Crown mare Vino Veritas--was bred in Great Britain by Phil Cunningham and spent two seasons racing throughout England and Ireland. He made his U.S. debut for Cunningham and trainer Simon Callaghan in 2012 at



Photo ©Laura Battles

Santa Anita, kicking off what was to become his banner season.

In February of 2012 Slim Shadey captured his first graded stakes, the Grade 2 San Marco at Santa Anita (a race he

would capture again in 2013). Then, in September, Slim took the top spot in the Grade 2 John Henry Turf Championship, which served as a stepping stone to a run in the Grade 1 Breeders' Cup Turf where he finished 8th (a few lengths behind the winner, Old Friends retiree, Little Mike).

By 2014, the now 6-year-old Slim began a series of claims, first to trainer/owner David Jacobson, then to John Servis (for owner Michael Dubb). By 2017, he began sliding down the claiming ranks, and his dwindling career began to attract the attention of worried fans, who started a ground swell of concern on social media. He also came on the Old Friends radar, with founder and President Michael Blowen.

"I began stalking Slim Shadey two years ago," says Blowen. "Maybe it was his good looks or my vague memory of him skimming up the rail to fill out the exacta behind Little Mike, in the 2012 Woodford Reserve Turf Classic at Churchill Downs. I'm not sure. But I was certain of one thing - it was love at first sight." Soon after, Blowen approached then-owner Dubb when Slim was racing at Saratoga. Dubb agreed to retire Slim to Old Friends when his racing days were finished.

But that was not to be the end. In 2018 Slim was claimed again, this time to owner Michael Hui and trainer Mike Maker. Again, Blowen kept an eye on

the dark bay gelding and keeping apprised of his whereabouts.

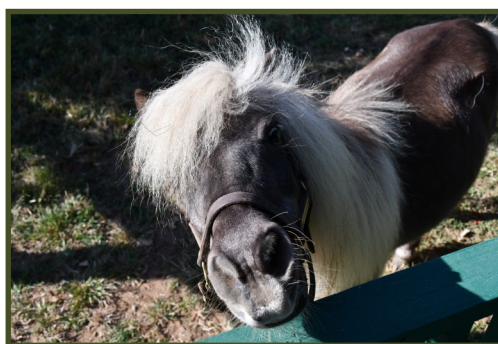
After a series of unsuccessful starts, the time finally came for Slim to hang up his racing plates. And Hui, who earlier in the year retired war horse, Hogy to Old Friends, agreed to uphold the original promise made to Blowen. Shadey made his final start on August 2nd at Indiana Grand at age 11, and was pensioned after a nine-year racing career that boasted 83 starts, 14 wins, and earnings of \$1,278,855.



Photo © Laura Battles

"We were told to watch out for Slim because he liked to kick and bite," says Blowen. (Indeed, a YouTube video of a feisty 3-year-old Slim double barreling a TV camera during a post parade has gone viral in recent weeks.) "But we've seen none of it so far. He's friendly, kind, appreciative, and beautiful. Thanks to both Michaels and all his fans for allowing us the privilege to see him every day."

The World according to Little Silver Charm



It should be obvious buy now that I am the givingest horse on the farm. I give and I give and I give of myself every day. When it comes to giving, I am the expert around here This isn't egomania, as some would have you believe, but a simple statement of fact.

And yet, when the people who run this place decided to construct a Giving Tree did they consult me? Is there any mention of me among the many suggestions for giving? No.

Well, here's one. You know who there's always a star on top of the Christmas tree? If they want people to contribute to our Giving Tree they should put a star on top of it. ME.



Old Friends Giving Tree

A **bag of carrots** would be great but let's face it, I go through a single 32lb bag on my own in a week! Not bragging'. Just sayin'. A week's worth of carrots wouldn't have to be rationed for everyone else. Better yet! A year's worth, if you can swing it with all your friends chipping in, would make the whole farm kick up the dust in joy! I'll make sure they designate a bag a week for me, just because I'm me.

Nicanor

"Hello, it's me. Awesome Gem in Paddock 73, which you might guess is at the back of the farm. I hope someone donates a **golf cart** so my fans can find me!"

Awesome Gem

Being a Cali boy has been awesome and moving to Kentucky with this amazing Bluegrass is a little bit of heaven, but I'm not sure about the cold temps the local guys are spouting off about. Not that I couldn't handle it. I'm tough and they're probably exaggerating, but if you could see "Phet" to hook me up with a **Rambo Rhino Wug**, I wouldn't turn it down. You know . . . just in case.

Soi Phet

"It doesn't take a genius to realize that horses need protection from frozen crystalline objects falling from the sky. **Blankets**. Stat."

Einstein

"Manager Bill needs a **Kubota** 'cause he doesn't have one & it takes him a long time to feed us."

Old Friends Farm 3



"As the most senior of the senior residents here at Old Friends, we're asking for **Senior Feed for a Day**. Thanks to the outstanding care we receive, we're still kicking it at 31 and 30, respectively. Please help as many of the other horses as you can reach their 30th birthdays and beyond."

Dinard & Archie's Echo

"They didn't ask me what to put on the tree so I refuse to participate."

Little Silver Charm

"I already have everything a horse could need, but Little Silver Charm — get him an attitude adjustment."

Silver Charm

"If you could get my BFF, George, a square bale of hay, I'd sure appreciate it. It's just his size!"

Alphabet Soup

"A heated water bucket for my pal Alphabet Soup would be great, because he shares everything—carrots, the limelight, his stall, his paddock, and run-in shed. He's the best!"

Gorgeous George

"My fabulous 27-year-old physique doesn't just happen. Thanks to **Platinum Performance CJ**, I'm still turning heads!"

Afternoon Deelites

"Bling. Whatever you get me has to have bling. Bling bling bling bling bling. Oh, and it has to be fashionable."

Selena the Cat

You can make all the difference to an Old Friends retiree this holiday season!



Old Friends Giving Tree Wish List



Kubota RTV • closed-cab • gas-powered • \$15,500.00

Golf Cart • 6-seat • gas-powered • \$9,549.95

Carrots for a year • \$7,296.00

Run-in shed • \$2,000.00

Wagon-load of hay • \$1,187.50

Feed an Old Friend for One Year • \$1,100.00

Carrots for a month • \$768.00

Platinum Performance® CJ 50 lb supplement • \$754.00

Platinum Performance® CJ 25 lb supplement • \$377.00

Senior Feed for a day • \$367.50

Christmas Dinner for the farm equines • \$355.00

Rambo/Rhino mid-weight blankets • \$229.95

♥ Diversify (size 78)

♥ Einstein (size 81)

♥ Hogy (size 78)

♥ Right to Vote (size 81)

♥ Saudi Poetry (size 84)

♥ Slim Shadey (size 78)

♥ Soi Phet (size 81)

Carrots for a week • \$192.00

Round-bale of hay • \$53.00

Heated water bucket • 42.00

Carrots 50 lb bag • \$32.00

3M™ Vetwrap™ case • \$27.36

MannaPro® Insect Shield Opti-Force® Fly Mask Standard • \$25.61

Square bale hay \$4.75



Old Friends Tour Gift Certificates Starting at \$15

Old Friends Life



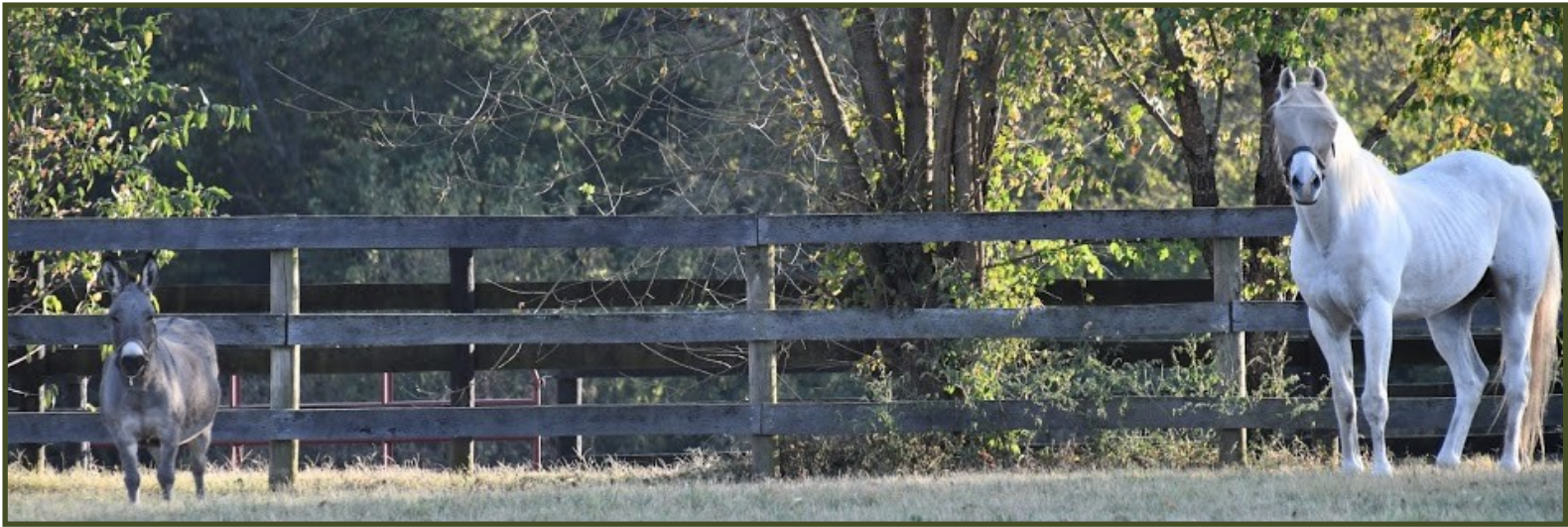
Einstein



Silver Charm



Bath Time with Shadow Caster



Gorgeous George and Alphabet Soup

Sunset



Round Bales



Cajun Beat

Timmy



Silver Charm's Daughter Classy Charm



How You Can Help Old Friends



Champions for Charity
Breeders' Cup and Maker's Mark
Mike Smith
Signed, Commemorative Bottle
A handful remain at \$400 each
100 % of proceeds benefit Old Friends & Permanently Disabled Jockeys' Fund

Friends for All Seasons

Is monthly giving right for you? Do you believe in dignified equine retirement to a forever home and the value of steadfast, reliable partnerships? Sign up as a monthly donor & receive a gift of Old Friends bookmarks.



Thank You for Supporting Our Horses!

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

General Donation \$ _____

Clubhouse Annual Membership (\$150.00) _____

The Hoof Patrol \$ _____
Gold (\$250) Silver (\$125) Bronze (\$50)

Shares for Life (\$100.00) Horse: _____
Little Silver Charm & Gorgeous George (\$25.00 each)

Old girlFriends Society (\$100.00) _____

Friend for All Seasons Monthly Donor (credit card)
Indicate amount to be charged monthly \$ _____

Giving Tree: _____ \$ _____

Other \$ _____ Purpose _____

Check enclosed Credit Card

Account number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CVV# _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Old Friends is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.
Your contribution is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

1841 Paynes Depot Road, Georgetown, KY 40324
(502) 863-1775 • oldfriendsequine.org

Clubhouse Annual Membership
Your \$150 membership includes leather & brass keytag, free tours, discount admission to Homecoming in May, and free general admission to Kentucky Derby Museum in Louisville, KY & National Museum of Racing & Hall of Fame in Saratoga Springs, NY.



The Hoof Patrol
Support the 500+ hooves of Old Friends retirees who have short/long-term hoof issues. Hoof Patrol keychain, email updates, videos & more!
Bronze (\$50)
Silver (\$125) • Gold (\$250)
Membership levels

Old girlFriends Society
Do you appreciate great mares? Your \$100 lifetime membership donation includes an 8 x 10 photo of one of our *Old girlFriends*, an annual visit to the mares paddock, and your name on the *Old girlFriends* web page!



Shares for Life
Show your love for an Old Friends horse! Donate \$100 to support your favorite horse and you'll receive a photo of your horse & a certificate suitable for framing.

Old Friends

1841 Paynes Depot Rd.
Georgetown, KY 40324
(502) 863-1775

Old Friends is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to providing safe harbor & dignified retirement to Thoroughbreds whose racing & breeding careers have come to an end.



Old Friends Board of Directors

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Old Friends Tour Menu

(Pricing effective July 1, 2019)

GENERAL TOUR

A 90-minute guided walking tour,
meeting 15-20 of our retirees.

November 5, 2019 through March 15, 2020

Daily at 11:00 am

March 16, 2020 through November 12, 2020

Daily at 10 am -1 pm -3pm

Reservations Required

Adults \$15 • Children 4-12 \$10

Children 3 & under free

Book your General Tour online at
oldfriendsequine.org or call 502-863-1775

OLD FRIENDS PRIVATE TOUR

A 90-minute customizable guided tour

Minimum 2 people • Maximum 5 people

1 week advance notice required

Not available during weeks of Kentucky Derby,

BreyerFest & Breeders' Cup (when in KY)

Adults: \$35 • Children 4-12 \$15

OLD FRIENDS FOUNDER'S TOUR

with Michael Blowen

A 90-minute customizable guided tour

Minimum 2 people • Maximum 5 people

1 week advance notice required

Limited availability

Not available during weeks of Kentucky Derby,

BreyerFest & Breeders' Cup (when in KY)

Adults: \$75; Children 4-12 \$25; 3 & under free

GROUP TOURS

Old Friends can accommodate your
group with a custom tour.

Discount pricing for groups of 20 or larger.

Call us for additional information.



**Book your tour by phone or on our website:
502-863-1775 • www.oldfriendsequine.org**