



Parelli  
FOUNDATION

November  
2015

Year-End  
**Wrap-Up**



Image by Coco  
Graphic Design by Linda Hiller Deppe

*This year, we asked you,*

*“Will you join us in creating a better world for horses and humans?”*

*Many of you responded enthusiastically, “Yes! I want to help!”*

*It has been inspiring and exciting to see your supportive response to help us carry out our mission of horsemanship education for youth, therapeutic horsemanship, horse welfare, and scholarships for the talented and for the career-minded individuals. That is why, as the year comes to an end and we look ahead to 2016, we are first and foremost grateful for YOU and your support of the Parelli Foundation. As an independent, nonprofit 501(c)(3), we could not do it without you.*

*“Helping create a better world for horses and humans through natural horsemanship education”*

## Youth Horsemanship

The Parelli Foundation is pleased to support the education of our future horsemen and horsewomen in several ways. We believe the right start in horsemanship will create well-rounded, respectful leaders with the capability to not only connect with horses on a deeper level, but also be better equipped to become solid members of the community and future leaders.

The Future of Horsemanship program helps qualified youth achieve their Level 4 in the first three Savvys. We piloted our first child this year and have a goal to sponsor up to 10 children in 2016. Youth accepted into the program are paired with a generous scholarship donor who covers the costs.



Anna and Dazzle

### Anna Workman: Our First Youth Horsemanship Scholarship Recipient

After an audition process that included a video and written application, the first youth to enter the program is Anna Workman. Her story is one of courage, determination, and inspiration. This 11-year-old girl holds three jobs to support the care of her horse and has passed her On Line at Level 2++ and her FreeStyle at Level 3++. She is someone who will change the world in so many ways, and we are proud to sponsor her. To learn more about Anna, go to [ParelliFoundation.org/anna](http://ParelliFoundation.org/anna)

The Parelli Foundation will continue to provide

scholarships to children who would like to attend clinics with a Licensed Parelli Professional (LPP). We are also working on a program that is youth-centric and can be used by children's clubs and home schooled children from their home. This program is planned for release in 2016.

To learn more about how you can get involved in supporting our youth horsemanship education program, go to [parellifoundation.org/goyouth](http://parellifoundation.org/goyouth)

## Therapeutic Horsemanship

Our second area of focus is helping horses help humans. Horses are catalysts for healing and therapy. We work with therapeutic programs to teach them how natural horsemanship can make their programs even better and more effective, through helping the horse become a more willing partner. Here are stories from two programs we've had the pleasure of being involved with.

### Ernie: A Horse Learning to Have Fun

Ernie was described as the perfect match for Marion Therapeutic Riding's program (MTRA) until he began to resist being bridled; nipped at lead walkers, side walkers, and riders; and cow kicked while being saddled. Ernie was trying to tell everyone, "I am not happy. This job is stressing me, and I need something different." To learn more about Ernie, go to [ParelliFoundation.org/ernie](http://ParelliFoundation.org/ernie)



Gail Dufresne (Staff MTRA) and Ernie



Jake, Therapeutic Horse at Special K Ranch

## Jake: Showing How to Build Partnerships

Some 2,500 miles away, Jake was showing the staff of the Special K Residential Ranch in Columbus, Montana that a horse could be a partner in their program, not just a tool to be used. Jake was raised with Parelli Natural Horsemanship and then donated to the ranch.

Sharon Flematis wanted all of their horses to be just like Jake. So, thanks to a sponsorship from the Parelli Foundation, eight staff members participated in a Level 1-2 clinic designed by Licensed Parelli Professional 3-Star Instructor Jenny Trainor, to teach them how to build partnerships with all of their horses. Flematis says, "The connection between the staff and horses is probably the biggest change." To learn more about Jake and the transformation at the Special K Ranch, go to [ParelliFoundation.org/jake](http://ParelliFoundation.org/jake)

We are excited to offer our first full therapeutic center scholarship to educate and support a center through the natural horsemanship journey over a course of one year. Our goal in 2016 is to sponsor up to six centers.

To learn more about how you can get involved in supporting our therapeutic horsemanship education program, go to [ParelliFoundation.org/therapeutic](http://ParelliFoundation.org/therapeutic) or [ParelliFoundation.org/donations](http://ParelliFoundation.org/donations)

## Horse Welfare

The Foundation offers educational programs for those involved in the important work of horse rescue through our current workshop offering, Rehoming for Life. We have found that many involved don't always have the time or finances to travel to the sites where workshops are offered, so we will soon offer a program that focuses on the specific needs of a horse rescue center at their facility. We hope to launch the program in the first half of 2016.



Jen Reid, Best Friends, faculty; Lora Ponter, Director of SERRA - Sponsor; Erin Fowle 3★ Licensed Parelli Professional, faculty.

## Rehoming for Life Workshop

We held a Rehoming for Life workshop this past spring in Petaluma, California, hosted by Sonoma Equine Rescue Rehab & Adoption (SERRA).

Staff and volunteers from horse welfare organizations learned about improving safety and helping horses overcome many of the challenges they face when finding a new home. Participants increased their skills in caring for challenging horses; learned strategies to improve adoption; and also learned business skills and practices necessary to run a successful rehoming organization.

Our thanks go to Licensed Parelli Professional 3-Star Instructor Erin Fowle, who led the course, and special guest Jen Reid, director of Best Friends Horse Haven, who presented the business sessions.

## Now That's a Walking Horse Grant

In addition to providing education to horse rescue organizations, the Foundation is involved in a number of other horse welfare efforts. We were pleased that the Humane Society of the United State (HSUS) awarded one of its "Now That's a Walking Horse" grants to the Foundation. The award is part of HSUS' effort to promote flat-shod registered Tennessee Walking Horses in venues other than traditional show ring rail classes, and to end the practice of horse "soring." To learn more about soring, you can go to [www.fosh.info](http://www.fosh.info)

This grant money will pilot a series on gaited horse education for those with a special interest in developing the natural abilities of the Tennessee Walking Horse to bring out the best in their gaited horses. ➡ page 4



Molly the Pony, Theresa Fincher, Kaye Harris

## Molly the Pony: A Story of Hope and Inspiration

Most people living in North America can recall the news reports in late August 2005 about Hurricane Katrina's devastating effects. In addition to the human loss and suffering, stories of the unexpected plight of thousands of pets and livestock left behind by evacuating owners touched the hearts of so many.

This was the reality for one such pony; a pony named Molly. She was just one of hundreds of horses abandoned by owners who were forced to leave New Orleans without their beloved animals. Molly became a national icon and, through her journey, has helped so many humans in need. To learn more about how the Parelli Foundation helped Molly and Kaye, her partner, in their journey of helping others, go to [ParelliFoundation.org/molly](http://ParelliFoundation.org/molly)

To learn more about how you can get involved in supporting our horse welfare program, visit [ParelliFoundation.org/programs/horse-welfare](http://ParelliFoundation.org/programs/horse-welfare) or [ParelliFoundation.org/donations](http://ParelliFoundation.org/donations)

## Scholarships

Scholarships help assist the development of future natural horsemanship professionals and competitors. Through scholarships, the Parelli Foundation is increasing the number of highly qualified natural horsemanship instructors, horse development specialists, and others who will touch the lives of students and equine enthusiasts around the world. Since the Scholarship program's formal inception in July 2010, nearly 200 scholarships have been awarded to deserving students, totaling more than \$1 million.

To learn more about how you can get involved in supporting our scholarships program, you can go to [ParelliFoundation.org/scholarships](http://ParelliFoundation.org/scholarships)

## Events and Activities

2015 has been a year filled with incredible events and fundraising activities – so many that it would be impossible to list them all! Here are just a few of the highlights.



Image by Coco

Licensed Parelli Professionals: Jody Grimm-Ellis, Cezanne DeCristoforo, Margit Deerman

## Road to the Summit and Gala

Thanks to an incredibly successful Road to the Summit event held in Pagosa Springs, Colorado this fall, more than \$200,000 was raised to help the Foundation with its outreach.

There was a great turnout for the Gala and spirited participation in bidding for a variety of auction items. The event culminated in the auction of six high-quality horses, donated by the Atwood Ranch of Red Bluff, California, and developed for the past year by top Licensed Parelli Professionals.

To learn more about the special partnerships made between the Road to the Summit horses and their new owners, go to [ParelliFoundation.org/rfts](http://ParelliFoundation.org/rfts)

## The Foundation would like to thank the event sponsors:

- The Licensed Parelli Professionals who volunteered their time and talent to develop these horses into outstanding partners. You are a great example of what the natural horsemanship world is all about.
- The Atwood Ranch: [www.AtwoodRanchNaturally.com](http://www.AtwoodRanchNaturally.com)
- Priefert Ranch Equipment: [www.Priefert.com](http://www.Priefert.com)
- FOSH – Friends of Sound Horses, Inc.: [www.fosh.info](http://www.fosh.info)
- McCabe's Repair & Welding: Check out their Facebook page
- Young Living Essential Oils: [www.essentialoilsforus.com](http://www.essentialoilsforus.com)
- Starry Knight Friesians: [www.starryknightfriesians.com](http://www.starryknightfriesians.com)
- Photonic Health: [www.photonichealth.com](http://www.photonichealth.com)
- Parelli Saddles: [www.parellisaddles.com](http://www.parellisaddles.com)
- Parelli Natural Horsemanship: [www.parelli.com](http://www.parelli.com)
- Omega Fields: [www.omegafields.com](http://www.omegafields.com) ➔ page 5

And last but certainly not least, we would like to thank everyone who volunteered, donated, sponsored, or participated in the Summit and Gala. It was an incredible time that we will never forget. Watch our website for the next launch of Road to the Summit and the 2016 Gala.



Licensed Parelli Professionals, Minnesota Rally

## Rally Roundups

Speaking of events you'll never forget: if you participated in one of the Rally Roundups this past year, you undoubtedly came away inspired, energized, and saying "Wow!" The Roundups allow participants to "create their own clinic" by joining multiple Licensed Parelli Professionals for two days of workshops, choosing from dozens of different sessions, with classes ranging from beginning through Level 4. In addition to the classes, there were opportunities for private time with instructors, an evening BBQ, and lots of networking opportunities. Rallies were held in Florida, Minnesota, and Washington. For more information on Rallies near you, go to: [ParelliFoundation.org/rallies](http://ParelliFoundation.org/rallies)

## In the Kitchen with Linda Parelli

The Foundation was thrilled to offer a unique, once-in-a-lifetime experience this year called "In the Kitchen with Linda Parelli." Not only is Linda an internationally known expert in the world of natural horsemanship, she is an amazing individual with so many talents and skills. She graciously opened her home to have in-depth discussions, demonstrations, and simulations about natural horsemanship, and capped things off by cooking up tasty dinners with all those attending. It was like sitting down at your own kitchen table with family and friends, learning and sharing stories and experiences. Thank you, Linda Parelli, for making this a wonderful experience for all who participated.

# Living Your Purpose

## Living Your Purpose: Transformational Evenings

Do you ever feel you have a greater purpose in life? Maybe you're not sure what your purpose may be or how to move forward with your life. These thoughts are what led the Foundation to host two "Living Your Purpose" events in 2015, one in Florida and one in Ohio. Both featured speakers discussing different aspects of life and had participants thinking in new ways, especially relating to challenges we all face in life. Thank you to our speakers and supporters of each event!

### *In Florida, participants heard from:*

- Lauren Barwick, a para-dressage rider and winner of three medals in the Paralympic Games. She talked about how "That Bump in the Road is Your Friend."
- Dr. Patrick Handley, a licensed psychologist and personality assessment expert. His presentation was "Seeing the Best in Others Starts with Discovering the Best in Yourself."
- Dr. Jenny Susser, a sports psychologist with a doctoral degree in clinical health psychology. Her keynote address focused on "Finding and Embracing Your Life Purpose on a Personal and Global Level."
- Honorary special guests included Linda and Pat Parelli, as well as Pat's son, Caton.

*In Ohio, I was honored to share insights* about the Parelli Foundation, and attendees were inspired by the messages of:

- Shannon Knapp, the Therapeutic Horsemanship Education Coordinator for the Parelli Foundation. She shared a moving story about how Foundation programs have influenced lives.
- Carol Coppinger, a Licensed Parelli Professional and 6-Star Master Instructor, who shared her own personal story, which was moving and motivating.
- Willard Barth, an international speaker and business consultant and coach (formerly with Tony Robbins), whose presentation was "The Anatomy of Transformation," powerful tools to use in life.

If you were unable to attend either session, you can still be inspired by the messages shared. Audio copies of the Ohio event are available for purchase through the Parelli Foundation website.

Just go to [ParelliFoundation.org/lypaudio](http://ParelliFoundation.org/lypaudio)

## Opportunities for Giving

As we go into the final months of 2015, we are not only assessing our accomplishments, but also planning for the New Year. As you look at your year-end charitable giving and plan for future giving, we hope you will keep the Parelli Foundation in mind. The Parelli Foundation Inc. is a nonprofit organization with 501(c)(3) status recognized by the Internal Revenue Service.



The Foundation earned the "Gold Level" designation from GuideStar, USA, Inc., an information service specializing in reporting on U.S. nonprofit companies. Out of 1.5 million nonprofits, fewer than 5,000 have achieved Gold Level status. Donors to the Parelli Foundation can be assured their investments are being used wisely and appropriately, with contributions tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. There are so many ways you can give; it's easy, because there are options for everyone.

### Our NEW Endowment Fund

We are fortunate to have been able to establish an endowment fund this year, thanks to three generous donations from our board members: Edwin Alderson, Jean Wyer, and Carlos Osorio. We look forward to building an endowment that will help secure our future for generations to come. For more information on the Endowment fund, contact [Theresa@parellifoundation.org](mailto:Theresa@parellifoundation.org)

### Giving Tuesday

Did you know that #GivingTuesday is coming up? In the U.S., it's the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, December 1, and is a movement to create a national day of giving at the beginning of the holiday season. So if you're participating in #GivingTuesday, consider giving to the Parelli Foundation!

### Your Gift – Your Way: Open or Designated Giving

Make an open donation or choose one or more of our directed donation options. To find out what it takes to become a Walk, Trot, Canter, or Gallop partner, go to [ParelliFoundation.org/giving](http://ParelliFoundation.org/giving)



### Shop Online and Support the Foundation

We know you love to shop online, so why not do it and help the Parelli Foundation at the same time? The Foundation is participating in the Amazon Smile program. It's easy and free to participate: just go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com). On your first visit, select "Parelli Foundation" as the nonprofit that will benefit from your future purchases. Then, with every purchase you make, a portion of the purchase price will go to the Foundation. If you already have an Amazon.com account, you can also use Amazon Smile for purchases through that account.

### Donate Your "Stuff"

You might not have cash to donate, but you can also help the Foundation by donating your "stuff" through the iDonate program. The Foundation accepts many types of "in-kind" donations, including jewelry, gift cards, stocks and bonds, real estate, electronics, horse trailers, vehicles, saddles, RVs, etc. This is a simple, easy process at no cost to you. To learn more on how to donate your treasures, go to [parellifoundation.org/idonate](http://parellifoundation.org/idonate)

### Planned Giving

One way to help ensure that the good works of the Parelli Foundation continue for the future is to make provisions for planned giving through your estate. This might include a provision in your will or designating a beneficiary for a retirement plan. These are ways to "pay forward" the very positive impact that natural horsemanship has had on your horses and your life. Horses and humans that you may never meet will benefit from your thoughtful planning and generosity.

### Pegasus Circle

The Parelli Pegasus Circle recognizes the very special people who have made a legacy gift to the Parelli Foundation. We invite you to join this Circle, which is envisioned as providing a base for the future of the Foundation. These generous people are invited once a year to a private gathering with Linda and Pat Parelli to recognize the importance of their gifts for the legacy of natural horsemanship. For information about planned giving and the Pegasus Circle, go to [ParelliFoundation.org/planned-giving](http://ParelliFoundation.org/planned-giving) or contact [Theresa@parellifoundation.org](mailto:Theresa@parellifoundation.org)



While we are giving thanks,  
I would like to honor our donor partners for  
their commitment to the Parelli Foundation.

*You are the best!*

*You chose your favorite gait to help us change the world!*

### **WALK PARTNERS**

Lynne and Harley  
Molly Maloy  
Hugh LaPentotiere  
Deborah Mihali  
Loreen O-Hare-Hall  
Debra Sisk  
106 anonymous Walk partners

### **TROT PARTNERS**

Ralph A. Berquist III  
Doni Bird  
Margit Deerman  
Helenmarie Espinosa  
Andee Heffler  
Jim and Ann Kiser  
Dan and Christa Roser  
Peggy Wade  
Karen Wimpy  
Marlee Barton  
73 anonymous Trot partners

### **CANTER PARTNERS**

Ronald C. Czarnecki  
Susan Sleeper Dossett  
Carol Lowery  
Kerul Kassel  
17 anonymous Canter partners

### **GALLOP PARTNERS**

The Atwood Ranch  
Bill and Lorraine Kaliher of Tender  
Winds Farm  
5 anonymous Gallop partners

### **LEGACY PARTNERS**

Donna DiGiuseppe  
Robin Dym  
Paula Knickerbocker  
Jean Lewis  
Lori Northrup  
Gretchen A. Rohde  
Dave and Karen Silvis  
Kelly Robinson  
Seth and Judy Burgess  
20 anonymous Legacy partners

## **Our Name Has Changed**

Early in 2015, the Parelli Education Institute was renamed the Parelli Foundation, allowing us to exclusively focus on philanthropy related to our mission. We remain an independent, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.

Parelli Natural Horsemanship (PNH) has taken over all educational courses at both the Colorado and Florida campuses, becoming one entity worldwide, offering a variety of course options for students as well as managing the pathway toward becoming a Licensed Parelli Professional.

This renaming and reorganization allows the Foundation to concentrate all its efforts on philanthropy. Our supporters, volunteers, and donors have enthusiastically responded that they agree with this change.



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## – Looking forward to 2016 –

Wow! Looking back, I realize how fast time flies and how much we accomplished in 2015, thanks to the hard work of our staff, volunteers, supporters, partners, sponsors, and Licensed Parelli Professionals. THANK YOU – we could not have done it without YOU!

Heading into 2016, we will continue to develop new and innovative ways to achieve our mission of helping create a better world for horses and humans. We hope you will join us in 2016. As always, we love hearing from you and we deeply appreciate the donation of your time, talent, energy, and treasure.

*Here's to a happy and healthy 2016!*



*Warmest wishes always,*  
Theresa Fincher, Executive Director  
Parelli Foundation

*"Helping create a better world for horses and humans through natural horsemanship education"*