



# TROT'S TRACKS

WWW.TAMPATROT.ORG

## TRANSITION TO TROT

Spring 2012  
Volume 1, Issue 2

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### Thoroughbred Retirement of Tampa, Inc. (TROT)

#### Mission Statement

TROT is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to the safe retirement, rehabilitation and adoption of Tampa's racing Thoroughbreds.

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### Board of Directors

Dwight Back, President  
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Christine Tutcher, Sec'y/Treas  
Margo Flynn, Director  
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## A special Thank You to Tampa Bay Downs for hosting Festival in the Skye.

Thoroughbred lovers turned out in force March 9 for the Festival in The Skye gala in the Skye Terrace Dining Room at Tampa Bay Downs, helping to raise more than \$6,000 for TROT (Thoroughbred Retirement of Tampa, Inc.).

Total proceeds included ticket sales, a silent auction during the event and generous donations, both during the event and the following day at our trackside table on Festival Day 32, which featured the running of the Grade II, \$350,000 Tampa Bay Derby.

TROT expresses its gratitude to Tampa Bay Downs for providing the venue, food and libations for Festival in The Skye. Also, to The Baron Sisters, Kimmy and Kelsie, for their live musical entertainment. The music was wonderful and we will continue to follow your careers with great interest!

Also, appreciation goes out to the Gallery of Champions for donating two beautiful pieces of racing artwork autographed by Kentucky Derby-winning and Hall of Fame jockeys for the silent auction.

TROT is also thankful to Natalie Keller Reinert, the founder and editor of Retired Racehorse Blog and author of *The Head and Not The Heart*, for offering a portion of the proceeds from her book-signing to TROT. We enjoyed hanging out with Natalie on Saturday! Also, thanks to Anna Hamilton, artist and creative director for Murals for Mutts, for showcasing her talent during the event and offering a portion of the proceeds from her equine painting sales to TROT. We were blown away by the beauty of the two equine portraits.

Finally, a big shout-out to the attendees and generous donors who are instrumental in our efforts to help these magnificent animals transition from racing to retirement to new forever homes. We cannot do this without you.



## Where are they now?

Ask Tanja and James Jarrell and their 10-year-old daughter Shannon: There is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a young girl.

Shannon breaks into a wide smile every time she visits their 4-year-old Thoroughbred filly Gypsy, who was known as Nottawatch on the racetrack. The Jarrells, who adopted Gypsy through TROT (Thoroughbred Retirement of Tampa, Inc.) on March 31, 2011, live only a few minutes from where Gypsy is kept in Pinellas Park by their friends, Kimber and John Paetzold.

“Shannon doesn’t really like the cleaning-up part yet,” said her mom, “but she likes riding. And Gypsy is so kind. She knows when a little person is on her, and she goes at a slow tempo with her.”

Gypsy resides with a Quarter Horse named Bee and a Tobiano Paint gelding named Calvin. Tanja, who works as a convenience store manager, helped care for them for several years, but she hadn’t thought about getting her own horse until she received a 20 percent raise last year.

That rekindled the horse lover in Tanja, a native of Switzerland who won a gold medal in vaulting at the 1994 World Equestrian Games in the Netherlands with seven teammates and her Swiss-bred horse, Casanova.

Tanja also won gold medals in vaulting in the 1991 and ’93 European Championships and numerous silver medals in the sport. Vaulting is best described as “gymnastics performed on a cantering horse,” with vaulters leaping on and off the horse and performing gymnastics movements on its back while the horse is controlled in a circle on a lunge line.

The Jarrells say Gypsy has been a pleasure to own and care for from the beginning. “We wanted to make sure we took it easy with her, because she had only been off the track about two months,” Tanja said.

“We had a vet check her and there were no injuries, but she was very stiff. We slowly changed her food and put her on hoof and joint supplements. Since then, we haven’t seen her get stiff or move funny.”

After turning her out by herself for six weeks, the Jarrells decided to allow Gypsy to socialize. She and Calvin are now virtually inseparable.

Tanja said Gypsy is highly agreeable to being ridden. “She reacts very good to cues,” she said. “At the beginning she wouldn’t trot, but I just had to back her up and try again. The big thing was staying patient. I keep Shannon on a lunge line with her because she is not an experienced rider yet, but she can walk and trot on her.”

Shannon loves Gypsy for her kindness and intelligence. While the Jarrells hope to be able to compete at local shows with her, their ultimate goal for Gypsy is basic.

“We want to see that she lives a happy life and has no major health problems,” Tanja said.



## Who’s at the barn?

TROT welcomes volunteer and horse trainer Lockie McNeish! Lockie volunteers as intake coordinator and has been working with retraining several of the new TROT fosters. She is currently retraining 3 of the TROT horses that are ready to move onto second careers!

Come out and show your support for TROT! We'll have informational tables with horse info, t-shirts and car magnets at the following locations:

Saturday, April 7th, 12:30 to 4:30, Tampa Bay Downs, 11225 Race Track Road, Oldsmar, FL

Saturday, April 14th, 9 am to 4 pm, Pat's Tack (re-sell day), 38880 US Highway 19 N, Tarpon Springs, FL

Saturday, May 5th, 9 am to 4 pm, JC Saddlery (re-sell day), 8541 Gunn Highway, Odessa, FL

Please check the website for updates on events. [www.tampatotrot.org](http://www.tampatotrot.org)

## Still collecting items for the Gadget Drive! "Recycle for Ex-Racers"



Time is running out!

Donate your used phones, computers, cameras and what not to the "Recycle for ex-Racers" drive! Our goal is to raise money to support the TROT horses currently in foster care. Drive ends May 6th!

Please visit [www.recycleforex-racers.gazelle.com](http://www.recycleforex-racers.gazelle.com) for more information.

### TROT HORSE WISH LIST!

#### GROOMING SUPPLIES:

SHAMPOO AND CONDITIONERS

MICROTEK ANTI FUNGAL SHAMPOO

MTG

COWBOY MAGIC

BRUSHES

#### Misc:

WORMERS

HALTERS AND LEADS

POLO WRAPS

SHAVINGS



Showcase your OTTB pride and support TROT at the same time! Purchase from OTTB Designs at [www.ottbdesigns.com](http://www.ottbdesigns.com) and mention "TROT" as your chosen charity! \$5.00 per saddle pad will be donated to support the horses of TROT.

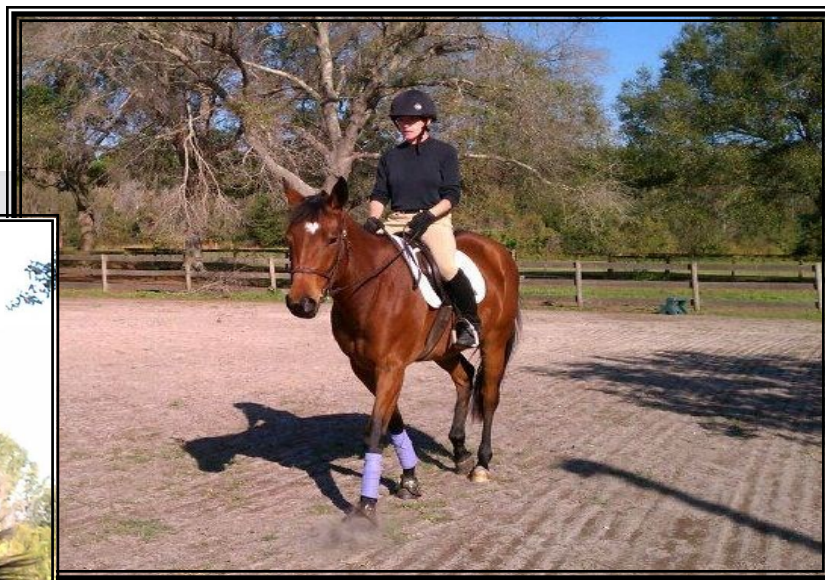
TROT has a NEW Facebook page! Please join for the latest news and updates!





## Spotlight: Princess Mecca

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Meet Princess Mecca aka “Mecca”. Mecca has recently entered the TROT foster program and is unraced. She is 3 years old and is a petite girl, she stands around 15.1 hh.

Mecca has recently started under saddle and does her walk, trot, canter like a dream!

She has lovely ground manners and is waiting for her forever home!

### **Available horses:**

Disco Dis Way  
Dreamer of Dreams  
Justoutoftheblue

Mac A Dude  
Princess Mecca  
Pure Pulpit

Self  
Sir Classic Chris  
Xtralicous

Please visit the TROT website at [www.tampatrot.org](http://www.tampatrot.org) for more pictures and information on all the available horses!