

LRF News

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We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give –*Winston Churchill*

If you're reading this newsletter, you likely have a passion for the Lipizzan breed and want to see it preserved for all time. With decreasing annual counts of new foals and an aging breed population we need to help every Lipizzan we can. Thankfully, the Lipizzan Rescue Foundation (LRF) is working tirelessly on that very mission! Through rehabilitation, adoption placements, and fostering, each and every horse that is in our community is saved through your generous donations and participation in fundraising campaigns.

If you have not visited the LRF website lately, please do. You'll find wonderful success stories and a list of our current horses who our community is helping. The Giving Tree page is new and allows donors to give specific items for our horses in need. Of course, you can also make a monthly or one-time donation through the site as well. lipizzanrescuefoundation.org

But there are so many ways to give outside of the website, auctions, and events throughout the year. For those still working, consider making a donation to LRF and have your employer match it. Many companies now will match dollar for dollar, making your donation double the impact.

If you are taking IRA distributions, then consider diverting some of your distribution directly to LRF and avoid paying income tax on that portion of your distribution. Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) are not limited to taxpayers who itemize their deductions – it can be used by non-itemizing donors who do not ordinarily receive any tax benefit for their charitable gifts! You can have money sent directly to LRF and it will satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).

Lastly, consider planned giving by arranging for a gift now to benefit LRF after your lifetime. There are simple ways of doing this through bequests in your will, trust, or life insurance policy. You can use a charitable lead trust to give a set amount each year now to LRF, or a charitable remainder trust to pay you income during your lifetime and give whatever is left over in the trust to your charity. While the goal is to provide a legacy and fund your passion for Lipizzans beyond your years, there are significant tax advantages taken now, even though the charity will likely not see your gift for many years.

Giving is rewarding and you can be creative in how and what you give. It doesn't have to be cash donated now. Recently, I sold a bookshelf on NextDoor and found LRF on the "Buy For Good" drop-down menu! I got rid of it, someone got what they wanted and LRF got the sale proceeds. Win, win, win. Have fun thinking of ways you can give to the breed that gives so much to us – it will feed both the horses and your soul.

