

# Parelli e-News

PARELLI WORLDWIDE



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## Horse Rescue/Slaughter Issue

Dear Pat and Linda, My name is John Holland and I have been an advocate for our horses for many years.

In 2002, though I had owned horses all my life, I knew nothing about horse slaughter beyond the presence of kill buyers at the auctions. I was asked to be an intermediary between representatives of the two opposing views. I helped to arrange some meetings to see if common ground could be reached. My friend on the Agriculture side spent hours telling me all kinds of justifications, but when I started checking the facts I was alarmed to find almost everything he told me to be untrue.

I was shocked at not only the deceit, but the sheer brutality. Worse, I realized that I may have allowed horses to go to this fate. I became obsessed with learning and documenting the truth and getting it out to the horse community. As I did so, I was saddened that so many people I respected in the horse business seemed to be turning a blind eye or staying on the fence.

When I learned that you were beginning to take an active role in helping alleviate this unfair treatment of our horses I was absolutely thrilled. I was all the more impressed by the brilliant plan you have put together with HSUS to train rescued slaughter horses. I can't wait to see what you are able to do with them.

Currently, the agriculture lobbyists have been hard at work equating HSUS with PETA and scaring everyone in animal agriculture into believing that this is just the edge of a slippery slope to a ban on all meat.

Thank you both from the bottom of my heart. It is a brave and generous thing you are doing, and it gives great hope to many of us in this battle for the horses.

*John and Sheilah Holland*