

Hoofprints & Letters

WINTER 2011/2012

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1

Please visit our website: www.rockymountainhouserescue.org



9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037

Year of the Impounds



The starved four on arrival

Maybe we should call 2011 the year of the impounded horses since we took in six starved horses from three different county animal care and control agencies. Our biggest challenge occurred on April 15th when we received a call from our friend Lisa Briggs from Douglas County AC. She said that she was on her way to neighboring Elbert County to assist in the seizure of four horses who were in a pen with a 5th horse who had been dead for about six weeks.

I told Lisa that we would take two of the impounds. An hour later, Lisa called back to say that we had to take in all four or none because only one horse was gentle and the other three were wild and running all over the people trying to get them into a stock trailer. She said that little bay was really dangerous in his frantic efforts to escape. Lisa said that the other alternative would be to send the impounded four to the kennel



Georgia on arrival, her lack of muscle & fat along her top line leaves her with only a shelf where her ribs join her spine

where stray dogs were housed. So—soon four scared horses were on their way to Rocky Mountain Horse Rescue while

we built a chute out of corral panels to run them out of the trailer and into a round pen before it got dark. The next morning revealed three skinny Arabians and one pinto part Arabian who had consumed all of the hay we



Georgia 5 months later with her baby colt born on September 1st

had given them the previous evening. They had settled down somewhat and were lying down; however, the little bay gelding? whom we named Tiger jumped up the minute he saw a fearsome human approaching.

The gray mare, now called Georgia, was the only gentle one of the four. She arrived wearing a halter and could be led and tied. We named the little pinto filly Hope and guessed



Terry Michel trying to make friends with Hope

her age to be around two (we found out later she was 7 or 8). We started to call the gray gelding? Tomboy, but changed it to Tommy.

A few days later, when I talked to Stephanie who had helped with the impound and provided the trailer, she remarked that the two boys might not be geldings! Uh Oh! She was right, they were STALLIONS! Our next job was to get the girls out of there and away from their amorous corral mates. We built a trap within the round pen to try to catch and halter Hope. Even though she consumed

(Continued on page 2)

RMHR is a
Non-profit
501(c)(3)
organization
and is 100%
volunteer

Inside this issue:

<i>Reprieve</i>	3
<i>Honey Gets Adopted</i>	4
<i>Why I Volunteer</i>	5
<i>CHJA Silent Auction</i>	5
<i>Volunteers</i>	6
<i>RMHR Officials</i>	6
<i>Up for Adoption</i>	7
<i>Free Use of Equipment</i>	8
<i>Memorials/Honoraria</i>	9
<i>RMCR</i>	9
<i>Volunteerism</i>	9
<i>Sundance</i>	10
<i>Thanks to Contributors</i>	11
<i>Our Great Volunteers</i>	12
<i>Our Great Volunteers</i>	13



1919 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037

Year of the Impounds (continued)

some tranquilized grain an hour before Dr. Gary Pallaoro and Nick Hoyt of Golden Animal Hospital were due, she became frantic and acted like a wild mustang while Nick and Gary worked quietly trying to get a halter on her. They finally got a halter and lead rope on Hope while she tried climbing out over the top and pushing her way out under the bottom of the trap.

We used Georgia as a Judas mare and pushed,



A portrait of Hope



Hope during recovery. Now we're afraid that she might be pregnant too!



Tiger with a halter and dragging a lead rope



Georgia's baby boy, Cody

To find out more about the impoundment including newspaper articles and YouTube videos, see our website!



Hope trying to climb out of the trap

pulled and dragged Hope up to her pen and shelter. She was given her shots and then left with the halter on and a lead rope attached so that she would teach herself to give to pressure and learn to lead. We are taking a chance leaving a halter on, but it would be even more dangerous if a wild horse got loose or sick and couldn't be caught or treated.

We then tackled the problem of getting a halter on Tiger. He put up a real fight after being roped in the trap, but emerged dragging a lead rope and learning to lead. We felt it was crucial that we would be able to handle the two stallions before getting them castrated. Volunteer Marie Hackett



Roping Tiger in the trap

took on the task of trying to gentle Tiger and Tommy. First, she got Tommy to accept a soft cotton rope drooped over his poll. She then made a loop for his nose and Voila!, Tommy was wearing a make-shift halter. Marie then worked with



Tommy with a real halter over the cotton rope

Tommy to accept a real halter over the temporary one so that he could be haltered if the need arose.

In October, we found a great gal who had trained a young mustang in the 100 Day Mustang Challenge and was willing to work at training Tiger and Tommy. Margaret Blaha has been able to put a



Accepting a bareback pad

bareback pad and finally a saddle on 5 year old Tommy—next step—castration and learning to be ridden.

As we were getting all four to gain weight, we noticed that Georgia looked like she might be pregnant. She was checked by the vet in July and confirmed to be in foal. We were afraid that her baby might be born malformed or crippled because of being starved during most of her pregnancy. But the good news is that a perfect baby boy, whom we named Cody, was born on September 1st. He continues to thrive with Georgia being a super mom to her bay son (we don't know who his sire is, but there was a dead bay Arabian stallion found on the property on the day of the impound).

Georgia and Cody are up for adoption together until weaning at 6 months. They can then be adopted separately. We're pretty sure that Georgia is rideable since she accepted a saddle with no problem. We will evaluate her soon.

Could you be the perfect adopter of Georgia or Cody or both and give them their forever home?



9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037

Reprive

April 28, 2011—I received an urgent phone call from my friend Amber Herrell of Shilo Acres Horse Rescue. She said that she was currently in the kill pen looking at horses to save and that a thoroughbred mare kept following her around. Amber called me knowing I'm a thoroughbred nut and have a special place in my heart for thoroughbreds.

We had a yardman jump on her and ride her around with a halter. Amber said she seemed OK except maybe a little off behind. So I had Amber buy her for me sight unseen at kill price since the horses were being sorted for that torturous trip to Mexico or Canada to be slaughtered for human consumption overseas.



Reprive arrived at RMHR bruised and beaten up

Amber brought her to me along with other horses she was saving at 10pm at night. It wasn't until the next morning that I could see what I had bought. A badly bitten-up, skinned up and thin bay mare stood in the pen where we had isolated her over night. She still had her racing plates (shoes) on and overgrown hooves. I thought that maybe she had raced in 2010 but not recently. Wow—was I wrong!

After checking her lip tattoo, we learned that she had turned five on April 22nd and raced one time in 2011 on March



Leighona walks Reprive around the ranch

5th. She was 2nd in that race and earned \$920.00. But, because she wasn't a great race mare and the race meet was ending, Reprive, as I named her, was sold to the kill buyer and shipped to the Colorado kill pen.



Ellie Wilkins holds Reprive while Leighona Bernstein gets on her for the first time

The poor mare was all banged up from being jammed with multiple strangers. She had even run into a wire or gate and had an injury to her chest. The only good thing was that she came in heat, so that we knew she hadn't been in contact with a jack in the kill pen.

Although we quarantined Reprive at first, we didn't isolate her long enough. She came down with strangles, and a few of the neighboring horses contracted it also, even though we gave them the nasal vaccine to try to prevent it.

Reprive has now gained her weight back and is fat and sassy. Thanks to Ellie Wilkins and Leighona Bernstein who worked with Reprive before heading off to college.

I later found out that the word reprive means only a temporary stay of execution. However, in our Reprive's case, the stay is PERMANENT!
—Bini



Reprive shows us that she is feeling much better!

Your contributions
are tax deductible

Wildlife Visitors



A baby barn owl can turn his head almost 180 degrees



White pelicans fly overhead

Social Media to the Rescue

In October, we ran into a crisis situation when Triveni (Vinny) needed colic surgery or had to be put down. Since I didn't think it would be right to devote many 1,000s of Dollars to just one rescue horse, I made the decision to donate \$5,000 of my personal money with the balance being rescue funds. Without telling me, Kris Nixon posted on her Facebook wall about our plight. Ten wonderful friends of Kris called the clinic and made a donation: Heidi Schmutz, Ashley Ogden, Carrie Olson, Shawn Harris, Jennifer Pesnell, Aura Ayler, Kendra Alcock, Carole Kenney, Emily Heitzman, and Bobbie White.

Thank you! Thank you!

— Bini Abbott



9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037

Honey Gets Adopted

Our winter 2010/2011 Newsletter featured "Honey" the pony who had to have her infected left eye removed.

We were thrilled when her perfect adopter arrived in the form of Allison, introduced to the Rescue by our mutual friend Colleen Ryan.

Allison's family had just lost their companion horse and their remaining horse, Bo, was not happy without a friend. I planned to show Colleen and Allison another rescue horse Sage, our great older Quarter-



Allison saw Honey and wouldn't let her go

horse and Honey. So much for that plan! From the moment Allison saw Honey, she wouldn't even look at Sage. They picked up Honey the next morning and Colleen spent the rest of the day helping Honey get settled in to her new home.

Allison's letter follows:

Hey Bini,

I wanted to take some time to say thank you for letting us adopt Honey. She is the missing piece to our happy barn and has been a blessing. We were so sad with the loss of our Quarterhorse Harley and the barn became a bad memory for our family. However, things have changed with the addition of Honey. Our entire family and neighborhood community just adores her and she attracts the attention of everyone around her. I sent you some pictures to give you an idea of where she now lives and how loved she is. She walks around with a smile on her face and both she and our Quarterhorse Bo, are very happy together. He no longer cries for the loss of his friend and just follows Honey wherever she leads him in the pasture. My daughter Rachel wakes up every morning to make sure Honey has a chance to see her before school and I no longer have to threaten to get the horse chores done.

I contacted her original owner Barb and wanted to assure her that Honey would have a forever dream home. We continue to communicate and I have even sent pictures of Honey to her. Barb lives in Parker and I have given her an open invitation to visit anytime.



Bo is on the Honey's right as it is easier for her to see Bo with her one right eye. Honey loves her new stall and we have had a new name plate made for her side. They love each other. It took only 3 days to let them roam the pasture together. They have never had one issue with each other. It appears that Honey is more dominant.

I just wanted to take the time to say Thank You and let you know that we are so happy that Colleen directed us to you. I knew the second I saw her that she was meant to live with our family and I promise to give her a wonderful life.

I so enjoyed meeting you and hope to have the opportunity to see you again. Just not for the purpose of replacing a companion as I'm sure both Honey and Bo will live a very long happy life.

Thank you and God Bless for the wonderful work you do.

Love,

Allison Rucker

P.S. - You will be happy to know that I have purchased myself and the kids boots and we 'try' not to wear flip flops at the barn and around the horses!



Rachel, Honey, Gilbert (the dog), Bo and Matthew (our middle son) walking them in the pasture. We did this for the first couple of days to be sure that they got to know each other. It turns out they wanted to be with each other! We separate at night only.



Fall Charity Horse Show Picks RMHR

We are grateful to our friends at The Colorado Fall Charity Horse Show for choosing us as their beneficiary of a gift of funds from their annual horse show held September 16th through the 18th this year.

We set up our booth in the front of the barn so that exhibitors and friends could see what our Rescue was doing. We especially wanted folks to be aware that we had loads of rescue equipment for anyone in need at absolutely no charge. Ann Burton (left) and Shari Ashley made sure that we had the "best seat in the house" to show off our rescue. Hopefully, the folks who saw our booth will pass along information about us to their vets, friends, and anyone who could use our help.



Honey and Bo are now inseparable



9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037

Why I Volunteer at Rocky Mountain Horse Rescue

Have you ever just wanted to get away from the rat-race and enjoy the outdoors? I feel this need every week with all that is going on in society. I found a place where I can be outside, feel the fresh air blowing on my face, the sun beating down on me even in mid-November and listen to the wildlife around me. It is at the Rocky Mountain Horse Rescue ranch in Arvada, CO.

God gave me a heart of passion for animals. It's obvious not everyone has a heart for animals when I see the horses that come to the rescue ranch though. God gave Bini and Meade Abbott, the owners, a heart for animals too and I thank him daily for people like the Abbotts. I came to the ranch about May 2011 when I saw an article about the ranch in the local newspaper and thought I would call and see if they needed any help. I only knew a little about horses, and that I love animals and being outside. Bini accepted me with open arms. She is continuously teaching me about the horses and how to work with them. Every week I go to the ranch, she makes sure to introduce me to any other volunteers so we get to know each other and build a connection too. She doesn't mind repeating the names of the volunteers (or the horses) so I learn them. Bini makes me feel like I'm always welcome at the ranch. She is a very kind and caring person.

There is always work to do at the ranch. I love helping Bini and keeping busy with the horses. I enjoy taking the mini horses out to graze in the field and just listening to them pull at the grass and chew. I watch the bunnies running around and in the distance I see some prairie dogs yelping as they jump up and down as if they are saying Hello. The view of Standley Lake to the East and the mountains to the West just makes me feel at peace. You can see many types of birds

flying around too and Bini and Meade will tell you about the Barn owls. My mind just opens up and all the workday stress flows away.

I like to volunteer at the ranch because I feel like I'm making a difference. If I can befriend one horse, help one horse feel loved, or help Bini and Meade, then I feel like I've accomplished something for the day and have purpose and meaning in my life. These horses need love, they need to know someone cares but if you don't want to be around the horses, there are many projects to work on like fixing stalls and gates, cleaning trailers, pulling particular burdock weeds, and more. There is always work to do at the ranch.

Bini helps me connect with the horses so much that when I'm not there, I worry about them. When it snows or rains, I wonder if Tommy and Tiger in the rounds are OK as they don't have a shelter yet. I feel a great accomplishment when Hope takes a carrot out of my hand knowing she would not let a human near her because she was abused or starved in the past. Bini recently had to put down a horse named Indi because he got colic. I thank Bini for her humane treatment to these big animals. I miss hand feeding Indi carrots and seeing his big brown eyes looking down at me. Another horse named Georgia recently had a foal who lets me rub his head every time I visit. I love walking around the ranch and giving them all treats, then brushing and walking the ones who know me now. These horses will look you in the eye and tell you their story as they just want someone to care. You must build trust with them and I'm up for the challenge. That's why I volunteer at RMHR.

By Melanie Hood-Lothouse

Wildlife Visitors



A recently fledged bald eagle lands on our pasture fence



Female cottontails line their nests with dried grass stems

CHJA Silent Auction

We were pleased to hear that Colorado Hunter and Jumper Association (CHJA) had chosen us to be beneficiary for half the proceeds of the annual silent auction held during the Silver Dollar Horse Show at Estes Park in August. Managed and promoted by the dynamic duo of Kathy Colleran and



Whitney and Kathy Colleran spent months preparing for the silent auction

daughter Whitney, there were many fantastic items and services donated, ranging from mane braiding to tack to vacation packages. The silent auction is always held during the Grand Prix Party and dinner—followed by the thrilling Grand Prix

Jumper class. John Pearce and his gray warmblood, Chianto, were again the winner of the blue ribbon and wool cooler. Carol O'Meara, as usual, supervised the awards ceremony and helped out seeing that the auction ran smoothly. We are really appreciative of the \$2,000 check given to us by The Foundation and the chance to continue to promote the work of the rescue to a new generation of show jumpers and their families. Thanks CHJA!



Treasurer Cathy Corcoran even baked 8 dozen cookies to raise money for the cause

—Bini



John Pearce and Chianto jump a winning round and celebrate with a victory gallop





9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037

Volunteers



Farrier Jean Gallagher has donated many hours trimming our beasts, Karen is head horse holder



Our thanks to John Krol. He found the donor of a 3 horse slant trailer complete with living quarters and then hauled it from Elizabeth to our rescue. The trailer is for sale.



A big thank you to neighbor Randy Kerr who keeps our motor fleet running and even delights in pulling the manure spreader with our '55 Chevy Truck. He also operates our archaic swather to mow our hay



Cory Job is a lifesaver keeping our golf cart running



Dr. Lois Toll gets down and dirty to trim 29" JoJo



September 1st, 2011 – Dr. Debbie Mayo checks out Georgia's newborn foal



Terry Michel (Mr. Fixit) built a much needed shed and repaired other wind damaged sheds

Rocky Mountain Horse Rescue 2010/2011

Board Members		
President	Bini Abbott	(303) 424-0037
Vice President	Ranya Kelly	(303) 431-0904
Treasurer	Cathy Corcoran	(303) 425-0646
Secretary	Mary Norden	(303) 978-1850
Western Colorado/Fund Raising	Ruth Ann Burnett	(970) 245-7774
Special Events	Carole Kenney	(303) 840-4384
Northern Colorado	Laura Gill	(970) 371-1446
Eastern Colorado	Kris Nixon	(303) 424-5972
Veterinarian Advice	Lois Toll, DVM	(303) 794-6359
Other Supporting Staff		
Website & Newsletter	Rob Nixon	(303) 424-5972
Facilities	Terry Michel	(303) 464-0718



9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037

Up for Adoption



Cheyenne is a 14 year old miniature horse mare who is 34 1/2" high. Her adopter will need to continue with her training. She is learning to ground drive.



11 year old Sadie Jane is 33 1/2" tall. She is the 1st foal of 14 year old Cheyenne. Sadie is learning to be a good citizen—how to pick up her feet, lead, etc. A real "easy keeper"

Triveni is a handsome 10 year old registered Thoroughbred. His last owner tearfully gave him to our rescue so that he could have the best veterinary care possible. Unfortunately, he just had colic surgery, and will be laid up for 6 months.



Suzi is a registered Old English Arabian mare; a sweetheart to take care of, she has been ridden all over the continental divide. She has been driven and even hobbled. Intermediate or advanced rider only.



Billie Holiday is an attractive mare who can be ridden English or Western pleasure. She is good on the trail, but not for rank beginners. She would not be happy in speed or jumping events.



Georgia is in her mid to late teens. She is gentle and well-mannered on the ground, but we're not sure of her training as a riding horse. We will continue to train and evaluate her. Even though Georgia was starved for the first 7 months of her pregnancy, she delivered a gorgeous, healthy baby boy on September 1st. We named her colt Cody and he is quite a rambunctious character. He will be weaned when he is 6 months old and can be adopted separately or with his mom.



Kanati is a tall 10 year old Thoroughbred who requires a skilled rider because he needs discipline to overcome his lack of previous training. He can be very barn bound.



Five year old Reprieve is a Thoroughbred race mare who was rescued out of the kill pen. Now that she has regained her health and strength, we will work on her rehabilitation under saddle as a pleasure horse or?



Hope has many issues in trusting people. She is 7 or 8 years old and does have a slight breathing problem from an indentation on her face. Cute as a bug, Hope needs a very understanding and patient adopter.



Five year old Tommy was rescued from starvation on April 15th, 2011. He is learning to trust humans and to accept a saddle. We will have him gelded and "green broke" before he can be adopted.

Visit our website: www.rockymountainhorserescue.org
and call (303) 424-0037 for changes in adoptable horses
New horses coming in!



9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037

Free Use of Rescue Equipment

Provided by Rocky Mountain Horse Rescue/ Bini Abbott, 9190 Alkire St., Arvada, CO 80005, (303) 424-0037, www.rockymountainhorserescue.org



Large Animal Lift

Used to lift a down (recumbent) horse to get it on its feet—e.g. out of a ditch or off a road. The LAL can be applied by one or two people in as little as five minutes to a horse with little or no sedation.

The LAL can be put on from the back negating the chance of getting kicked by flailing legs. The LAL is designed to maintain an animal on its feet for short periods.



Glide with Slipsheets

For sliding a recumbent horse out of a field or into a stall or trailer.



The Dura-Pik Tripod

Shown supporting "Lucky" – the practice horse model for training personnel in the use and application of the rescue equipment—made available by Horses Forever, contact Shirley Hoffman (303) 651-3070 or www.horsesforever.org, email at admin@horsesforever.org.



Barbaro being supported in an Anderson Sling



We rescued a horse out of a swimming pool with our sling



Equipment available to rescue by helicopter

The Anderson Sling

Available in large, medium, and foal sizes. The sling uses straps, pads and pulleys to lift and sup-

port a horse while shifting his weight to his skeletal structure rather than pressure points. May be used long term, but only for several hours a day.

We offer training sessions on the use of the rescue equipment to veterinarians, firemen, policemen, animal control officers and any other interested individuals.

Come visit our website: www.rockymountainhorserescue.org



9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037

Memorials & Honoraria

Memorials

- ◆ Alice Gilborn in memory of Cee (Cynthia) Wolf
- ◆ Jody Singleton in memory of 37 year old Ketchum
- ◆ Patrick Foss in memory of Ed Ashline
- ◆ Mike Thirouin in memory of Cheryl Kottke
- ◆ Lynne Cottrell in memory of Nancy Bonham
- ◆ Shawn Harris, Sharon Gail Ronnenberg, Shirley Merriman, and Joseph & Frances O'Malley, Annzo Eaton Phelps, Thomas & Gretchen Sickler, Ellin & Thomas L. Sickler, Jon & Peggy Gordon, Helen Hempel, Curt & Patricia Nelson, Barbara Muse and Kris Kerr in memory of Candy Epstein
- ◆ RuthAnn Burnett in memory of Peggy Rundle, Rowena Rogers, Ron Michaels, Ray Bullard, Harlan Hight, Doris Mae Cady, Catherine Greer Kothman, Suzi Kothmann

- ◆ Susie Stroh in memory of Dilly Pickle

Honoraria

- ◆ Collette Carey in honor of her godmother Alice Mary Drew, "a true horse lover"
- ◆ Rachel Weaver in honor of Susie & Weatherly Stroh, Leslie & Paige Farnham, Liz Benton, Kristi & Lori Seawell, Suellen Walker, Heidi Schmutz, and Nancy Sammons
- ◆ Dru Anderson in honor of Ashley Tenn
- ◆ Daisy Shepherd in honor of her "dearest" friend, Donna Rae Pugh
- ◆ Andrea Lougry in honor of Beth Brown
- ◆ Carol Ann Besch in honor of Chris & Vicky Patti
- ◆ Joe & Kim Salisbury in honor of Ashley Powell
- ◆ Marian R. Dandrea in honor of M/M Arlon Thomas
- ◆ Judy Smith in honor of Bini Abbott

Our Wish I list

Hay (grass or alfalfa), grain, stock trailer, truck to pull ambulance in the future, cash, your time and energy, stamps and someone to sell items on eBay or . . . ?



Rocky Mountain Cow Rescue?



We tried to save the life of a miniature Hereford who became paralyzed in her hindquarters after giving birth to her 1st calf. Unfortunately, since too much time had elapsed before she was supported first by the Large Animal Lift and later by the Anderson sling and we were unable to save her. Please, please, please spread the word that these great rescue devices are free for use.

Volunteerism & Education



On July 14th, Roxy Goss and her "gang" from Legacy Stables visited the ranch to learn about rescuing horses. Charney Disher even donated a darling child's western saddle. We had a great time with a wonderful bunch of fellow horse lovers.

L-R: Alison Carr, Quinn Fitzgerald, Charney Disher, Pablo Garfio, Madison Medina, Abby Rosenberg, Roxy Goss, Connor Olson



Madison Medina & Quinn Fitzgerald Donate \$100 of proceeds from their lemonade stand



Pat Spetz grooms our gentle Sage



Burdocks can really mess up a pony's forelock



9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037



June 23, 2011 – Jill and John Milton greet Sundance and welcome him to his new home



Sundance does tricks (sort of)

2011/2012 RMHR Advisors

Jerry Burk, Attorney and CPA
Scot Dutcher, Chief
Colorado Bureau of
Animal Protection
Lois Toll, DVM
Steve Long, DVM
Debbie Mayo, DVM
Charlie McKay
Gary Pallaoro, DVM
Jeff Wells, DVM
Shane Baird, DVM

Sundance and his Special Adopters

It's not often that we can find an adopter for a companion horse who is boarded by the adopter instead of being taken care of at home. However, Jill & John Milton are an amazing couple who were willing to adopt and pay board on an injured Missouri Foxtrotter who had been with the U.S. Forest Service in Wyoming for many years. John and Sundance are now having a great time going for walks and have formed a real bond.

But that is not the end of the story. In July, a lady called our rescue and said that she

had lost the farm and wanted to find homes for her two horses. One was a 30 year old Quarterhorse mare named Missy. The other horse was a 16 year old gelding that had been her "long gone" husband's horse. I explained that we get around a call a day from frantic people who can no longer keep or want their horses and that we are really full. Finding a companion home is always difficult, but for a THIRTY YEAR OLD? Oh my gosh! I started to tell her about euthanasia and she started crying. She told me that her daughter had committed suicide in March and she couldn't stand another death for her favorite Missy. Soon, I was crying also. I told her we would try to help her, but that it would be nearly impossible to find an adopter for an ancient horse who might not be rideable.

However, when I called Jill to see how Sundance was doing and mentioned the problem of finding a home for Missy, Jill was kind enough to accept a second companion horse. So now they are taking wonderful care of two companion horses who have found their forever homes.

John's letter to RMHR follows.

Thanks to the efforts of Wendy Haas (the guardian angel of Forest Service horses), and RMHR, Sundance came to stay with us in June. A big, gentle Foxtrotter, Sundance had worked hard for the Wyoming Forest Service people, but suffered a career-ending injury sometime last year. He can still walk just fine, but doesn't go much faster than a walk,

and even that pace is slow. This suited our situation just perfectly. I suffered a minor stroke several years ago and also can't walk nearly as fast as I used to. Where once I could outwalk most horses, now I find myself ambling along slowly, and Sundance has proved to be the perfect partner to wander around with. He's done more for getting me out and about and making me want to get out, than all the physical therapy I had after my stroke.

Everyone has taken to calling Sundance "Buddy" since he seems to like everyone. He perceives himself to be the stud in the neighborhood and flirts endlessly with all the mares. He has picked up a few new scars from geldings who don't take kindly to his attentions on their girlfriends. (Buddy explained to me that the scars are all right because they make him look tough. This apparently is a good thing in the horse world. We explained to him that he's too old for such things.) He's always at the gate when we arrive, waiting to go out for his walk, whether it's to graze in the pasture or walk around and visit. One of his two best horse friends (mares, of course) go with him and he'll even break out into a trot when we turn them out in the arena. (We board our horses up the street from RMHR and we owe a debt of gratitude to the manager of our facility for helping us out with all our retired horse issues. Polly has been the most patient of people and a wonder with the horses.)

We hope to have Sundance around for a long time—with luck, his injury shouldn't cause him too much trouble. He seems to be adapting well to the Colorado weather, although Polly did say that when he first came from Wyoming he annoyed everyone by trying to climb into his water trough when the days got too hot. Seems he was used to those short, cool Wyoming summers and this Colorado stuff just didn't suit him. But now that the weather has cooled off, he lets his paddock-mate have the shelter while he stands out in the cold. Truly the gentleman!

Our thanks to RMHR and Wendy (and the Forest Service) for giving us the opportunity to spend some time with this kind horse.

John and Jill Milton



John holds Sundance and Missy



The End



**9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037**

Thank You Contributors!

Our heartfelt thanks to our generous contributors. You have given us your time, talent, supplies, cash and even moral support since 2004. We wouldn't be successful without you!

Cash Contributors—Dec. 2010 - Nov. 2011

\$20+ :: Pam Nickoles, Ed Kohlepp, Gisela Lefor, Cat Cunningham, Betty Manolakis, Wilson & Sandy Dennehy, Daisy Shepherd, Marion Dandria, Patricia Rothdeiner, Liz Olde, Andria Lougry, Joe & Kim Salisberry, Jennie Pearman, Teresa & Maria Young, Anonymous, Debora Duke, Angie Zuccarelli, Louis & Helen Gridley, Grace Tiberi, Maria Grether, Shirley Merriman, Anzo Eaton Phelps, Jon & Peggy Gordon, Kris Kerr, Barbara Muse

\$50+ :: Ben & Laurie Duke, Michelle McDaniel, Cathy Buell, Joyce Taylor Brown, Laurie Deseau, Greg & Irene Coleman, Elizabeth Matsch, Patricia Byrne, Kelly Hersey, Becky Osborne, Susan McOllough-Serpa, Barbara Collett, Dr. & Mrs. Fred Mimmack, Patrick Foss, Matching funds for Laurie Deseau, Priscilla Wright, Mike Thirouin, Linda Eichman, Candy & Bob Frie, Pat Spetz, Ariel Cash, Shawn Harris, Sharon Gail Ronnenberg, Joseph & Frances O'Malley, Ellin & Thomas L. Sickler

\$100+ :: Jane Rose, Ruth Schrock, Mary Miklos, Peg & Marsh Link, Dru Anderson, Wendy Haas & Don Jago, Paul Dolan, Bill Keller, Carolyn Kavinsky, Jill & John Milton, Royce Romberg, Chuck & Donna Rae Pugh, Mike & Carolyn Gahar, Judy Smith, Mark & Leni Striegnitz, Connie Long, Dave Thomas, Bette Heller, Suzy Switzer, Lucille Zaffree, Will & Mary Norden, Lynne Cottrell, Carolann Besch, Jackie Richardson, Phillip & Donna LeNoble, Lana Wiese, Linda Saiz, Robert & Monika Steller, Bob & Carola Tschiemer, Charlotte R. Jonas Trust, Carson Ribble, Madison Medina & Quinn Fitzgerald, Nancy Sammons, Melanie Hood, Jan Eckhardt, Jan Pelton, Thomas & Gretchen Sickler, Helen Hempel, Curt & Patricia Nelson

\$200+ :: Rachel Weaver, Carole Kinney, Marie Frederickson, Fall Charity Horse Show, Barbara E. Gill, Meg Goblet, Valerie Layman, Pat Burnett, Johnson & Johnson matching funds from Pat Burnett, Alice Gilborn, Barb & Don Daniel, Dick Hall

\$350+ :: Frank Stello, Ruth Ann Burnett

\$500+ :: Jan Wilkins, Maude Mann, Sarah Keeker, Robert Siegrist, Collette Carey

\$1,000+ :: Susie Stroh, Betty Taylor

\$2,000+ :: The Colorado Hunter Jumper Foundation

\$5,000+ :: The Precourt Foundation

Contributors – Items

Katie Thomas – two tons of grass hay
Cindy Taylor – curry combs, grazing bit, hackamore
Kit Mann – mineral supplement
Greg & Irene Coleman – building supplies, treats
Katie Levine – western show tack & equipment, fake tails, coolers, much more
Rosy Goss – 7 girths, 4 pairs of chaps, Siegfried saddle, bags of sweet PDZ and rice bran, fittings for English saddles, fetlock boots, special saddle pads, and more
Nancy Wells – compete set of farrier supplies, 50 pound bag of treats, misc. tack
Lindsay Jones – 8 bales of hay
Ann David – black two horse trailer
Karen Viro – saddle pad, hay net
Alice Gilborn – boxes of the book – What Do You Do with a Kinkajou?
Birgit Berry – 8 dewormers
Al Bowman – chaps, Carhart overalls, snaps
Marie Hackett – 3 bags of sweet feed, 4 salt blocks, treats, 6 plywood panels for shelters
Barb Daniel – pony driving bridle, pony hackamore
Jean Gallagher & Karen Caruso – mini halters, grooming supplies, tub, and more
Ed & Natalie Rosson – tape, halters, leads, misc.
Celeste Marsh – western & English bridles, head guard, English saddle, martingale, 2 sets of irons, saddle pads, and more
Donna Buskirk – 5 winter blankets, 2 saddle racks, 2 saddle pads, 1 sheet, 2 fly leg wraps, 4 bridles, 12 halters, 2 sets of reins, and much, much more
Melanie Hood – manure rakes, treats
Nancy Lawton – bridles, boots, loads of tack and more
Liz Smith – hay, medical supplies, tack
George Horgan – bridles, buckets, lariats, saddle blankets, western saddle, saddle pads, chaps, medical supplies, misc. tack, grooming tools, and much more
Alaina Richards – saddle blanket, bareback pad
Suellen Walker – assorted tack and supplies
Bobbie White – horse blankets, misc. tack
Marta Schreiner – 11 bags of hay, 2 bales of alfalfa
Ann Stewart – 2 compressed bales of grass hay
Kate Corcoran – 8 doz. cookies for CHJA fund raiser
Charnie Disher – child's western saddle

Contributors – Manpower
Karen Brown, Kayla Reese, Billy Santiago, Marie Hackett, Melanie Hood, Kaelyn Davidson, Betsy Alves, Jan & Ellen Pelton, Paul Kornafel, Jennifer Hall, Meade Abbott, Haley Burke, Stacy Warwick, Mark Husmann, Dick Hall, Angela Johnson, Rue Ward, Marty & Pat & Kris Glapa, Wendy Weiss, Leighona Bernstein, Ellie Wilkins, James & Jordan & Ruth Han-

Wildlife Visitors



A baby barn owl just out of the nesting box



A bald eagle rests on the telephone pole next to the arena

son, Alan & Harumi & Myia Warner, Kelsey Wales, Sarah Vangi, Toni Rautis, Susanna Diller, Alana & Trish Byrne, Betsy Alves, Terry Michel, Rob & Kris Nixon, John Krol, Randy Kerr, Pat Spetz, Kate Corcoran, Jean Gallagher, Keira Rogers, Aubrelyn McConnell, The Cory Job Family

Safehomers/Foster Care Givers

Kris Nixon, Pat Burnett, Stacy Warwick, Jacqui Marcotte, Wendy Haas, Laura Gill, Eunice Baer

Transporters

Barb Daniel, Laura Gill, Kris Nixon, Wendy Haas, Shawnda Zapata, Eunice Baer



9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037

Our Wonderful Volunteers



Mary Norden holds very pregnant, formerly starved, Georgia



Dick Hall holds impounded Kanati just starting his rehab



Toni Rautus grooms 29" mascot JoJo in front of the latest shed built by Terry Michel. Do you think it's big enough for him?



Grandmom Ruth Hansen dives into cleaning pens with granddaughter Jordan



Susanna Diller works with recovering Hope



Marty, Kris & Pat Glapa work with Sadie Jane and Cheyenne



Irene Coleman grooms Jasmine while miniature donkeys badger her for attention. Jasmine's long coat is a sign that she has Cushings



Rachel Henley brought her crew from Shilo Stables to help out and learn about horse rescue—L-R: Cassidy Longmire, Rachel Henley, Jessie Fell, Grace Tiberi, Delaney Bookout, Ailaina Richards, Abby Stewart



Bily Santiago shows Sage his own horse power



Paul Kornafel grooms Amazing Mazie



Melanie Hood works with Billie Holiday



Sarah Vangi teaches Honey to canter while ridden with Keira Rodgers urging her on



9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037

Our Wonderful Volunteers



Dec. 2010 – Barb Daniel , Makenna Daniel , James Hansen, Aubreylynn McConnel l , Chelsea Clark & Mary Norden help gift wrap purchases at Murdochs



Angel a Johnson teaches JoJo to wal k on a tarp



Al ana Byrne tries out a donated saddl e on Sage



Chris Hancock, Ginny Hancock & Jordan Hansen al l hel ped gift wrap



Jan & El len Pel ton work with Cowboy and Littl e Bit



Littl e Bit inspects Betsy Al ves' grooming kit before starting out to groom and graze



Kit Mann, Trish Byrne, Pat Spetz & Al ana Byrne tackl e disguising a chain saw in gift wrap



A famil y affair: Al an, Myia & Harumi Warner graze and groom Suzi and Sage



CSU student Lindsay Jones donated 8 bal es of hay original l y brought from her home ranch in Oregon



The girls from Senior Girl Scout Troop #2113 came out to vol unteer. From L-R: Cameron with Cheyenne, Sierra with Sadie Jane, Mariah with Littl e Bit, and Al ex with Cowboy



Bob & Carol a Tschiemer show their l ove and compassion for starved Georgia



on Arrival



Chance-
Quarterhorse
Stallion

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037
www.rockymountainhorserescue.org



9190 Alkire St.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037
www.rockymountainhorserescue.org



Hal ey Burke and
Little Bit
jump for joy



Lonesome gazes at a
boot without a foot.
There were some
muddy days this year!

Special kudos to Pam Nickoles for taking fantastic portraits of our rescue animals in order to make them more adoptable. Pam specializes in photographing wild mustangs in their natural surroundings and fighting against the cruel roundups and warehousing of the multiple herds on BLM land.



To view her pictures and weekly blog please visit:
<http://nickolesphotography.wordpress.com>