



Blue Rose Ranch, Inc.

Horse Rescue & Adoption

*"Many have forgotten this truth, but you must never forget it.
You remain responsible forever for what you have tamed."*

-Antoine de Saint Exupery

November 27, 2017

Dear Valued Friends,

Our newsletters generally highlight horses who have recently arrived at the rescue, and those who have been adopted. It is our privilege to rescue horses in need, and we celebrate adoptions to great homes. An important aspect of the work we do at Blue Rose Ranch, however, is the long-term care of horses who do not find adoptive homes. There are many reasons some horses are not candidates for adoption; some have an injury that prevents them from being ridden or worked, some have "untrusting" dispositions, some were born with defects, some are just old. Some of these horses may be adopted as a "companion" for someone with another lonely horse, but this does not happen often. A difficulty for many horse rescue organizations is that they are full of non-adoptable horses, and do not have room to take in more. Blue Rose Ranch, because of our size and our approach to sustainable operation, maintains excess capacity to take in horses in need. Hard to adopt horses are sometimes referred to as sanctuary horses. These horses have innate value as God's creatures. They have a zest for life and desire interaction with people. Sanctuary horses require the same care as all horses at the horse rescue, and often have additional special food and pain control requirement needs. 17% of the horses at Blue Rose Ranch are sanctuary horses. This year, when thoughts are focused on Thanksgiving, we would like to highlight some of the horses who have found sanctuary for life at Blue Rose Ranch. Their stories are representative of the issues that cause a horse to need sanctuary.

Hope, a mustang, came to Blue Rose Ranch when she was 4 months old. She was always curious and wanting attention. She grew into a beautiful mare and received excellent training. Hope was a great candidate for adoption. Unfortunately, she slipped in the mud and chipped a bone on her stifle (where the hind leg connects with the torso of a horse). This particular injury is not one that can be corrected with surgery. Without a sanctuary home, a horse such as this is headed to slaughter. Hope illustrates a beautiful young horse with a limitation who has many years of life ahead and little likelihood of adoption. She needs to be loved for the horse she is. Hope can get around well without weight on her back. She loves to roam the ranch with her horse friends. As a mustang, Hope has great natural instincts on the range and the other horses see her as a leader.



Hope with her beautiful Mustang tail

Bluebelle came to us via law enforcement. She had been abandoned in the middle of a ranch, in an area fenced off from water. It was July during a stretch of days with 100 plus degree heat. Bluebelle was completely untrained, but she was so weak and dehydrated she could only put up a minimal resistance to being caught. John got her haltered and – literally – lifted her into the trailer to bring her home. She came with a surprise: a few months after her arrival she gave birth to a beautiful healthy foal. Bluebelle is an enigma. She loves to be around people, yet she is weary, which indicates she was mistreated in her past. Some horses who come to Blue Rose Ranch have had negative experiences with people, often from men who were harsh. Bluebelle has now been trained but is still flighty. Bluebelle is a candidate for adoption, but it would take a very special situation with an owner who really knows horses and one who could take time to gain her trust.



Bluebelle



Chino

Chino had an injured knee when she came to us. Horses with injuries often end up at a horse rescue because their owners do not want to feed a horse they cannot ride. Chino is very well trained, but she cannot carry the weight of a rider. Her knee suffers if she uses it too strenuously. Retired life at Blue Rose Ranch is perfect for her, as she can be with her friends, graze, and roam at her own pace. Chino receives a pain medication several times each week called Previcox. It is expensive but safe to use for a horse's system. Even with her limitations, Chino has a key role in our youth horse camp. She is one of the horses used in the grooming school. She is also patient so that each camp participant can practice picking up a horse's hoof. Those of you familiar with our organization know John's horse "Chief". Chino is the love of Chief's life!

Candy is a thoroughbred who raced at Arapahoe Park and at tracks in Kansas. Her racing name was "Get the Candy". She was injured while racing and came to Blue Rose Ranch in 2009. She is now 22. Candy has been gently used in our youth riding program. Occasionally, her old injury bothers her and we just let her rest, roam and graze. The racing world is not as glamorous as it seems. The health of horses is secondary to winning prize money. Because of her injury, Candy is not a prime candidate for adoption. All horses enjoy a job. Candy has a job helping the youth at Blue Rose Ranch as they learn to care for horses and as they learn to balance as a horse walks. She loves horse candy, and our horse Candy is sweet.



Get the Candy

Clementine came to Blue Rose Ranch via law enforcement. She was a victim of neglect. Her owner had moved and asked a neighbor to “watch” Clementine. She got a wire cut on a hind leg that became infected and was left untreated for months. By the time this “neglected horse” was reported, Clementine was in bad shape. The veterinarian prescribed antibiotics for a two month period, and she did get better. She can move around well in the pasture, but she has a permanent injury on that leg that prevents her from being trained to ride. Clementine is a very sweet horse, and is just the right height for kids to learn how to halter a horse. She is “foster adopted” by a supporter of the horse rescue. Those who foster send donations each month to care for one of the sanctuary horses at Blue Rose Ranch. They are indeed our Angels.



Clementine and Gracie

Gracie is also one of the fostered horses at Blue Rose Ranch. Gracie is a young thoroughbred who was injured while racing. She has a broken pelvis. We are not sure how she was injured, but she does not like going into our vet examination chute, which looks a little like a starting gate. Gracie enjoys retirement at Blue Rose Ranch. She has horse friends and is pain free when she moves at her own pace across the pasture. Gracie is just like people with injuries. She wants to live her life and enjoy her friends, even if she moves a little slower.



Dixie

Dixie is a sweet dun mare. This old sway back horse has ringbone on one front leg and the other front leg has a bad knee. She has great horse friends at Blue Rose Ranch and is able to move at her own pace as she roams and grazes. Dixie’s previous owners loved her. They were not experienced horse owners, and were lied to by the person who sold Dixie to them. The family thought they were getting a sound horse for their son to ride. What is truly sad is that the son paid for Dixie with his own money. That young man attended our youth horse camp last June and in addition to the regular camp activities spent time grooming his old friend Dixie. Blue Rose Ranch provides a place for Dixie to be cared for where she has a great horse life.

James Bond, a handsome paint horse with one brown eye and one blue eye, was owned by an elderly lady who needed to move to a nursing home. She was very concerned about the fate of her three horses, and was grateful they were rescued by Blue Rose Ranch. Bond is a horse with what appears to be “selective lameness”. He moves just fine until he is on the way to be saddled. Then he starts limping. Some horses choose to play this game. We knew a horse named Henry who would literally lie down and play dead if he thought you were taking him to be saddled. Henry would lie there a while and open an eye to see if you were still looking. Bond’s “limp” disappears when he enjoys his task and when he likes his rider. One of our volunteers, Clarissa, loves Bond. And he loves her. Bond never limps when Clarissa, who weighs next to nothing, is on his back. As you can guess, finding an adoptive home for a horse like Bond would be difficult. We understand his behavior and have found jobs in our youth program for Bond that he enjoys.



Bond



Zippy was an award winning western pleasure horse. Excellent confirmation, wonderful disposition, sound and healthy. He just got old. Zippy is now 29. Zippy is at Blue Rose Ranch because his previous owners no longer had space for him, and he was too old to sell. Zippy is a great horse and we were happy to step in and give him a home. The alternative for Zippy was a trip to the auction which would have resulted in a trip to slaughter.

Zippy standing behind his good friend Duke - in front of the grain shed, of course!

Raindancer is a gorgeous paint mare with a kind and gentle nature. She has a congenital injury on her right front leg. It is amazing the way she is able to navigate, and she demonstrates great courage. She has limits in what she can do, but she loves being part of the horse herd. She sweetly plants herself in front of the grain shed and refuses to move until she gets at least one cookie. Raindancer receives Previcox to help the inflammation in her knee. She is one of the first looking for a pet from visitors and seems to love life. Raindancer is one of our foster adopted horses.



Raindancer
THANKS!!



Charlie Horse
at Horse Camp
2017(He wears
this fly mask on
days when flies
are annoying.)

Charlie Horse came in with James Bond. Charlie is nearly blind. He can see shadows, and finds safety and comfort moving through the pastures along with the horse herd at Blue Rose Ranch. Charlie loves the attention of our horse walker volunteers. Charlie cannot see well, but he knows where the grain shed is and can always smell cookies in your pocket! Charlie is a happy horse and healthy in every way except sight. Few adopters are interested in a horse with a disability.

Foster Parent Program at Blue Rose Ranch

Foster parents are “angels” and enable us to care for these treasured horses. Foster parents choose a horse and send a donation monthly to care for that horse. Some foster parents enjoy visiting the ranch and spending time with “their horse”. Foster parents who cannot visit receive photos and updates. The commitment of these foster adopters truly makes a difference in the lives of individual horses. We are honored to be in partnership with these special people. Please contact Blue Rose Ranch by phone or email if you would like to foster one of the horses highlighted in this newsletter, or one of the other horses you may have seen on Facebook.

As you have seen in the sample stories of this newsletter, “unadoptable” horses pose significant challenges for horse rescues. Donations from our supporters enable us to provide a peaceful, caring and loving home for horses that were discarded or rejected. Horses often live to be over 30. Thank you for helping us with the ongoing care of our sanctuary horses at Blue Rose Ranch. Blue Rose Ranch is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and all donations are tax deductible.

There are many avenues to donate to Blue Rose Ranch this holiday season. We are participating in “Colorado Gives Day” (Tuesday December 5th this year), and you can donate via their website. You can also designate Blue Rose Ranch as your charity of choice through “Amazon Smiles” when you shop on Amazon. Throughout the year you can donate with links from our Facebook page and on our website. And, of course, you can mail a check directly to the ranch.

We wish you Peace and a Happy Holiday Season!

Sincerely,

John and Cheryl Webb
Executive Directors

*Special gift opportunity; a plaque to remember or honor a beloved pet, family member, or friend.
See enclosed sheet.*





Pastures and Friends at Blue Rose Ranch!

*Blue Rose Ranch would like to thank the following
Foundations for their support:*

Alice Jenkins Foundation

Animal Assistance Foundation

Anschutz Family Foundation

**ASPCA (The American Society for the
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals)**

Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation

Colorado Unwanted Horse Alliance

El Pomar's Hambrick Fund

El Pomar's Sally Beck Fund

Equus Foundation

Merck Animal Health

Rutherford Foundation

Sally Beck Foundation

Southern Colorado Community Foundation

William H. and Mattie Wattis Harris Foundation

Unwanted Horse Veterinary Relief Campaign