

EQUINE VOICES

RESCUE & SANCTUARY™

www.equinevoices.org

Spring 2011



MYSTIC

by Tom O'Neil

The rewarding, slap-on-the-back, feelings you receive from running a rescue seem fleeting at times, to be few and far between. It's a scenario that sometimes plays out over a long period of time; sometimes it's years before you know how lucky, fortunate, or inspirational you've been. But once it happens, it hits you like a blast of fresh air. Such is the case with Mystic.

Mystic came to us from far away, from a place from we have received many abused, people-wary,



and mentally down-trodden animals. This part of Canada gets down to 40 below 0 in the winter, but

that's not the worst fate these beautiful mares are destined for. What once started out to be a goal to improve woman's menopausal years ends up being a horrific cycle of abuse for animals and people, demanding that horses stand for months on a concrete slab with an extraction device tethered to their tail end and women being physically affected for life from the resulting drug's negative effects. The natural life of a horse, one of eating, grazing, and running wild, is shortened to a 3 month rendezvous with one of several studs in pasture, placed there for the sole purpose of impregnating the mares so the vicious cycle can start all over again. Money now becomes the only goal of the drug industry, and nothing is allowed to stand in the way. Mystic was destined to be part of this cycle, but, luckily, she was one of the fortunate ones, the next step was not death and she received a slim chance to imitate the life of a real horse.

The twenty or so horses came packed like sardines into the three compartments of the 18 wheeler, the unmistakable stench from the two day ride escaping the access door as it opened. As weanling babies and timid mares cautiously excited the trailer, you could see the frightened looks on their faces, the apprehension that accompanied this

long and tiring ride, this new location 1500 miles from "home." What now? Who are these strange beings watching our every move?

Of all the horses Equine Voices has thankfully rescued, Mystic and Cody, the gray colt that came at her side, are the two most timid we have ever had. It was obvious from the beginning that she was smart, she watched our every



move and would carefully stay twenty feet or so away, ready to flee at second's notice. She was instantly the lead mare, scattering the group she came with at feeding time, making them move to a different part of the feed bin with the flick of an ear or the movement of one rear foot in the direction of the offending party. She was always the one whose eyes were fixated first on any human who cleaned her pen or happened by – she had the look of a tigress evaluating her prey and deciding on a plan of action. We tried unsuccessfully to gain her trust to no avail. She had issues, we were no closer after two years than we were at the beginning.

Then along came Dorothy, whose experience and patience enabled her to befriend this untamable horse in weeks! The change was nothing short of miraculous, and within a month or so Mystic was actually saddled! Within two months she was carrying a rider, and within 3, was acting like a normal horse! This horse, one whose abuse was obviously deep-seeded, had finally come around thanks entirely to the efforts of a person she learned to trust. The effects of years of both physical and mental abuse began to peel away. This beautiful animal, a gorgeous girl with unicorn-like looks and deep mystique was finally able to act like a horse, not a gut-wrenching science experiment. She had come home to roost, her sad and ten human-deprived years prior to this were quietly moved to the past, her beautiful nature and elegant looks were now allowed to flower, a tremendous example of recovery. Most humans are not capable of burying a lengthy abusive past, only animals seem capable of this difficult task.

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"Until he extends the circle of compassion to all living things, man will not find peace"

- Albert Schweitzer

Successful Adoption Story

By Megan O'Connell

Hope came to us right after Thanksgiving of 2010. When we went to look at her at Equine Voices Sanctuary I liked her right away. While there were some other horses that we were considering as well, I knew that Hope would work out just right. She has such a wonderful nature and a calm disposition. Hope is also the first horse that approaches me in the pasture looking for the human interaction.



I immediately started ground work and quickly found out how easily she moves off of pressure. It was such a treat to find that out! She is also very bright, I really only have to show her a new cue once or twice and she has it! She showed a little apprehension with a mounting stump (the country version of a mounting block). I did one clicker training session with her and the mounting block (which we needed at the time because we didn't have a saddle that fit her!). On Christmas Day my husband sat on her while I led her around. She acted like an old pro and there was not a single sign of spooking or of her being uncomfortable. We decided that we needed to get a saddle on her so we ordered one in that fit her. She showed no fear of the saddle and we were able to get her ponied with the saddle out on trail in no time. When it came time for her to carry a person she did great!

We are so lucky to have found such a willing companion for our trail rides. Hope certainly fit the bill for us. I am now riding her by herself with no hesitation. Although she does have a nickname 'bulldozer' because she plows right through the brush! She is such a lovely horse and I certainly do look forward to many miles of trail with her! We already have a trip planned in February with her in the Muleshoe Ranch area.

I know that when there is another opening in our herd for another horse I will be looking first at what Equine Voices has available. They take really good care of their horses and do an overall great job of bringing the best out of each horse.

In Honor of My Father

by Carolyn Crowder

I donate to Equine Voices in the memory and honor of my father, Wade Crowder (1919-2006). Long before there were rescue organizations for animals in Alabama, my dad saved kittens, dogs, and horses from suffering and death. My grandmother told me about how he was forever bringing home a kitten or some other stranded animal as a boy and this love and sympathy continued until his dying day. My father had a rough time as a child and young adult and I believe he saw himself in these stranded, hurting and vulnerable animals and therefore did his best to help them thereby helping himself. He was the type of person who was up nights worrying about some poor horse or dog he had seen that day and would soon go and rescue or buy the animal off its abusive owner. He could not stand to see something hurt and do nothing. Unlike the other men of his generation and locale he never hunted or fished. Consequently he raised three children who are acutely sensitive to the plight of animals. At his passing he left me the wherewithal to contribute to people like himself who do the hard work of providing rescue and sanctuary to our fellow creatures on this earth.



Below is a wonderful quote from Dostoyevsky which I found several years ago and shared with him. He loved it.

"Love animals. God has given them the rudiments of thought and joy untroubled. Do not trouble their joy, don't harass them, don't deprive them of their happiness, don't work against God's intent. Man, do not pride yourself on superiority to animals. They are without sin but you, with your greatness, defile the earth by your appearance on it and leave the traces of your foulness after you. Alas, it is true of almost every one of us!"

Responsibility for abuse and neglect of horses

By Claudia Folch

All of us at Equine Voices remember August 4, 2008 when a man and his teen daughter were dragging Kachina behind a pickup. Kachina endured brutal treatment that day. After being dragged and beaten with a pipe, she was bleeding from the nose and had "road rash" on her rear legs, in addition to numerous cuts and scrapes.

Yet, in the end the abusers were set free.

There are other horror stories. In July 2009 when Smokey Joe came to Equine Voices, severely underweight and with badly overgrown hooves. Nicholas arrived with a severe skin bacterial/fungal infection as the result of terrible burns. He also had a foot infection so bad that he could not walk.

Any person with a heart would be sickened by the cruel treatment of these horses who most likely would have not survived, had Equine Voices not taken over their care. Too many other abused horses will continue to suffer inhumane treatment or even slaughter.

We as a society are at odds on many animal welfare issues. The majority of Americans accept that animals can be killed for human use, but would like their treatment to be humane. Unfortunately, not many take the responsibility to guarantee that will happen. According to the USDA for example, the regulations for commercial horse transport are that stallions and other aggressive horses have to be separated from the rest of the shipment. Adequate food, water, and rest six hours prior to loading onto a vehicle have to be provided and horses can be confined in a vehicle no longer than 24 hours without food and water.

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Diamond Rio: A Lesson in Courage

by Cynthia M. Dagnal-Myron

I wasn't looking for a "cause" the day I found Diamond Rio.

I'm a writer. And while doing research for an article, I clicked on a link to Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary. And as I read the little stories about the horses they had rescued...tears welled and time stopped.

I tried to stop reading because I was teetering back and forth between deep sadness and blind rage. But I didn't stop. I couldn't stop. I wanted to



finish every single story because I didn't want to forget these beautiful creatures. And once I'd read all the stories, I wanted to do something for them.

Though his story wasn't the most heinous of the many I'd read, Diamond Rio touched me more than all the rest. He was abandoned by drug smugglers after suffering a horrible injury. I later learned that his injury could have been a gunshot wound inflicted by those smugglers--we'll never know for sure. But I wouldn't be the least bit surprised if that were the case.

I have some remarkably courageous friends who work with illegal immigrants from Central and South America. So they deal with the horrors of the drug trade on a daily basis as a part of that job. They've told me many terrifying stories about what goes on down by the border. But this was a story I hadn't heard.

What happened to Diamond Rio probably happens more often than we'll ever know. And most of those horses die alone out there in the desert, silent victims the media ignore—though I'm told NPR did a little story about them recently, at last.

This one survived. But he will never be ridden again because his injury makes it impossible for him to bear the weight of a rider. That means he may remain at the sanctuary for the rest of his life, well-loved and cared for, but unable to do the one thing he was born to do ever again.

So when I stared at that noble face and read the little paragraph about him one more time, I knew I

wanted to sponsor him. If my little monthly contribution would buy him anything he needed, anything any of those magnificent creatures needed...I could rest a little easier.

The thing is...whether you're looking for a cause or not, once you know there's suffering like this in the world, you can't just go back to business as usual. I've written an Open Salon blog about Diamond Rio and Equine Voices, and sent emails to many of my closest friends as well because writing is what I do best, and I'm hoping others will be moved to action by my words.

One responded immediately. In fact, it was my old friend Clara Luna who encouraged and came with me, along with my daughter, Thandi, to meet Diamond Rio in person about a week after I signed on as a sponsor.

I am so glad I agreed! I was relieved to see that his wounds, physical and emotional, have apparently healed. He sniffed my hand and let me pat his face without a hint of fear—I don't know many two-leggeds who would have that kind of trust after an experience like his.

I was deeply humbled by his gentleness and innate dignity. I think Diamond Rio did more for me during that visit than I can ever do for him. And I am so glad I found him, and Equine Voices, by "accident" that day. My life has been enriched beyond measure.

Mystic....

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If you volunteer, give hard-earned dollars, or donate items for our fundraisers, you need only to observe the miraculous progress and stunning recovery made by Mystic to end any uncertainty you might have regarding the effectiveness of your gift. Mystic, Cody, and Gracie are only some of the many examples of why we do what we do. Your love and attention to the cause do not go unnoticed – Equine Voices is changing methods and minds one at a time, and you are in integral part of that process.

Something to think about. . .we have more than a dozen mares in Canada that deserve the same chance at life, the life of a normal horse. They have all made it through the hard winter and there are 5 more we are trying to sponsor and eventually bring home to Arizona. Times are tough, we are all feeling the pain of the recession. Your help and help from your friends is desperately needed. You can help by encouraging your friends to join our quest. Ask them to donate to Gulliver's Fan Club, it's only \$10 a month! Or if they can do a little more, sponsoring a horse or one of Mystic's herd is another great way to show support. When we're gone, we will be remembered for our philanthropic gestures, we all need to give that more thought.

Bettering the plight and role of horses and improving the lives of women is not easy. Can we count on your support?

Equine Jewelry is here!

Show your support for Equine Voices with a custom hand made necklace or bracelet! Stylish charity bracelets or necklaces are the perfect way to show off the cause you support. 20% of the proceeds will go right back to the horses of Equine Voices. Danae Dorame is one of our young horse advocates and we hope that she can inspire more young people to follow in her footsteps. To purchase a unique piece of jewelry, log onto www.equinevoices.org and click on our gift shop. You can also contact danae at www.d-jewlz.live.com or visit our gift shop at the sanctuary.



Gulliver's Fan Club!

Do you love Gulliver and would like to support the horses at Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary?

Join Gulliver's Fan Club! For only \$10/month, you can be part of making the difference. You will receive a unique sticker, "I've joined Gulliver's Fan Club," a VIP ranch tour, and a personal meeting with Gulliver.

Log on to www.equinevoices.org or contact claudia@equinevoices.org.



Responsibility... *continued from page 2*

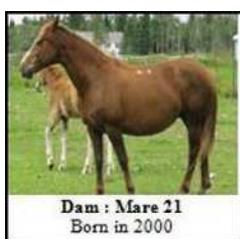
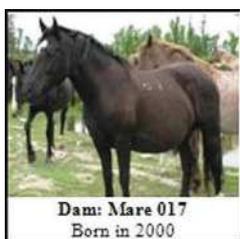
Just imagine being in a confined space without food or water for 24 hours!

Most of Americans also accept things like horse races, dog races, and rodeos without thinking too much about what happens when business drops or an animal is injured or too old or sick to keep working. The public chooses to ignore the fact that they could be killed and trust without evidence that the animals will die humanely.

The agriculture industry also doesn't want too much public attention paid to the treatment of animals on their way to or in slaughterhouses. We don't like to think about how those pork chops made their way on their dinner table.

I believe that the least we can do as a society is to declare that all animals deserve to be euthanized humanely and that no horse or any other animal should be abused or neglected. Unfortunately, our stubborn blindness also makes it easier for the government to avoid its responsibility.

High-profile cases will always attract a great deal of public attention. Sadly, we often wish that it wouldn't have to go that far. Our reluctance to face our own demons in the abuse of animals leads to too much suffering. I believe it's time for the public to step up and be a voice for the voiceless.



Upcoming Events

What: Seventh Annual "A Very Special Horse Event" - Building a Community of Compassion

When: April 9th, 2011: 11:30 -3:30

Where: Brandi Fenton Memorial Park, Tucson, AZ
Silent Auction, Live Auction, Raffle, Horse Demonstrations, Special VIP Guest Heather Rowe from KOLD News 13, Food and Much More!

To Volunteer contact Diane Russell at az-hiker@cox.net

To donate items for the silent auction contact Nancy Chapman at nacha04@msn.com



What: Anna Twinney's Reach Out to Horses® Program

When: April 14th - 17th, 2011

Where: Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary

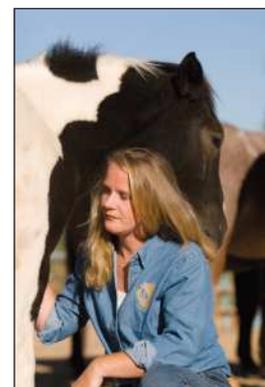
14th & 15th - Private Lessons with Anna Twinney (\$95)

15th - Animal Communication Evening, 6-9pm (\$75)

16th - Trust-Based Leadership & Compassionate Communication Clinic (\$175/day participating - \$75/day auditing)

17th - Simple Solutions Horsemanship (\$100)

For more information please contact Claudia at (520) 398-9312 or claudia@equinevoices.org



What: International Equine Awareness Day - Open House

When: May 15th, 2011

Where: Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary

For more information please contact Claudia at (520) 398-9312 or claudia@equinevoices.org or visit our website: www.equinevoices.org.

What: Fifth Annual "Equine Voices Wine & Dine Gala"

When: October 23rd, 2011 - 4:30pm

Where: The historic Arizona Inn, Tucson, AZ.

Cocktails starting at 4:30pm and a three course sit down dinner, live auction, silent auction and more. Great local/national wines and microbrews.

Order your tickets by contacting Claudia at (520) 398-9312 or claudia@equinevoices.org. Tickets are limited. Reserve your seat now.



What: Anna Twinney's Reiki Level 1 and Reiki for Horses

When: November 11th & 12th, 2011

Where: Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary

For more information contact Claudia at (520) 398-9312 or claudia@equinevoices.org.

For more info visit www.equinevoices.org

Sponsor a Horse

Sponsoring a horse is a wonderful way to help if you have limited time, space or finances and can't commit to a lifetime of horse care. With the sponsorship, you will receive a beautifully framed picture of the horse you've chosen, their story, and a horsehair keychain made from the sponsored horse's tail hair. This is a rewarding way to be involved with our rescue efforts and to help the horses. It can also be a unique gift for a friend or relative.

Monthly support for a horse at Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary is \$50 per month, which helps defray our feed costs.

Adopt or Sponsor a Mare from Ranch One

THE PERFECT GIFT TO SHOW YOU CARE- A GIFT OF LOVE THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

There are still five more unsponsored mares at Ranch One who need you! Whether you are looking for the perfect gift, or you are a horse lover who does not have the space, time or means to care for a horse, consider sponsoring one of the 18 mares who are still left in Canada.

For a donation of \$75.00 per month--a yearly sponsorship of \$900 per year--you can even name your sponsored horse! And better still, with your help we may even be able to bring them all home to Equine Voices sooner than expected..

We welcome both Individual and corporate sponsors. Can't sponsor a horse alone? Consider a group sponsorship with friends, family members or even co-workers. Do you need another tax deduction? As with all donations to Equine Voices, your sponsorship is also tax deductible.

Being part of Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary's sponsorship program is a wonderful way for you to help make a difference in your life and that of a former PMU mare. For more information, contact Claudia at Claudia@equinevoices.org or call the office at 520-398-9312.



A priceless Tribute...

QUASIMODO DE SEVES 4-22-82 to 10-29-10

"I got "THE" phone call yesterday morning around 9:30. Quasi was colicking and in terrible condition. Dr. Dunn, the vet, had been called. I took off for the barn. When I arrived he was drenched in sweat, trying to lay down and had a terrible look in his eyes. I pulled on his ears and he seemed to know I was there. There was no decision to be made and we put him down immediately. I am grateful that Victor saw he was in distress, Liz gave him banamine and I was in town and could get there to say goodbye. Many of his human friends were there to cry, hug and recount all his virtues. He had a bit of naughtiness which made him interesting. For the most part, I referred to him as my 1300 pound golden retriever. He was a love and enjoyed any form of attention and of course, treats. Quasi was generous with other riders and young horses who he taught to trail ride. He was loved by many. Quasi and I show jumped, evented, did dressage and went on trail rides. He was my friend and therapy for 23 years (one of my longest and happiest relationships). I will miss him greatly. Quasi had a wonderful life (better than at least 95% of the people on this planet).

Don't bother asking me how I am--sad of course. I am also grateful for all the wonderful times that Quasi and I shared.

Thanks to all the great people who cared for him." --Bonnie

Are you looking for a unique way to honor or remember a loved one? Do you have a favorite quote you would like to have memorialized? Has a special person or animal left a lasting impression in your heart and life? Would you like to give a permanent gift to a special friend?

Equine Voices is building a memorial garden to honor those loved ones that are no longer with us. Order a personalized stepping stone or a piece of garden art and hold your beloved friend close to your heart.

Help us name our memorial Garden!

.... for submissions email Jackie Cuyler at jackiecuyler@comcast.net or call Jackie at 540-937-4115. The name should represent something sacred to the horses. The winner will earn a stone in memory of a loved one (pet or human) to be placed in the garden. For submissions, email or call Jackie Cuyler. We'll be taking votes until Friday, May 13; the winner will be announced on Sunday the 15th, at our Equine Awareness Day Open House.

A special **Thank You** goes to Bonnie Kay for her generous donation to help us create this memorial garden.

Visit Equine Voices' CafePress Online Store

for Cool Gear and Other Fun Stuff!

Custom T-shirts, Personalized Gifts, Unique Mugs, Posters & More

CafePress is where the world shops for custom T-shirts and other unique gifts that express people's unique personalities. The merchandise includes high-quality products such as T-shirts, hoodies, posters, bumper stickers, mugs and much more. At CafePress each item is printed as it's ordered, and products usually ship within 24 hours. Proclaim your love of Gulliver and support Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary! Secure online shopping 24 hours a day: proceeds benefit Equine Voices. <http://www.cafepress.com/equinevoices> or contact Claudia at 520-398-9312 or Claudia@equinevoices.org for more information.



Dark Horse Breathwork



When: May 12th - 15th, 9:00am - 5:00pm

Where: Pocket Sanctuary at Kenyon Ranch, Tumacacori, AZ.

May 14th - Take a journey of heightened self-discovery and inner awareness by working with the rescued horses at Equine Voices.

What: An EPONA Advanced Level Workshop

Facilitated by: Mary Louise Gould, EdM, Advanced Epona - Approved Instructor, Certified Holotropic Breathwork Practitioner; Caroll Hammon-Paulson, PhD, DMin, ARNP, Licensed Psychologist, Nurse Practitioner, Epona-Approved Instructor. To make a reservation or for more information contact Mary Louise at 520-975-6126 or email Mary Louise at MLGould125@aol.com.

August is . . .

Adopt-A-Horse Month!

Check www.equine-voices.org often to find out more about it!

We are counting on YOU to help us. Please tell all your family and friends to follow us on facebook and twitter.

<http://www.facebook.com/EquineVoices>

<http://twitter.com/equinevoices#>

Please help us spread the word!

Ways You Can Help

- Donate Monetarily
- Join Gullivers Fan Club
- Sponsor Your Favorite Horse
- Donate In Lieu of Birthday Gifts
- Shop At Gulliver's Store
- Sponsor One Month Of Fly Predators
- Give The Gift Of Stock
- Leave Equine Voices In Your Will
- Take Out A Life Insurance Policy Naming Equine Voices as Beneficiary
- Ask your friends and neighbors to help us
- Volunteer

Items Needed

Bermuda Hay, Bermuda Pellets, Black Sunflower Seeds, Beet Pulp, Rice Bran, Psyllium, Fly Spray, Fly Masks- (all Sizes), Fly Traps, MSN, Mucking Forks, Wheelbarrows, Vet Wrap, Special Spray for Nick's Burns, 4 seat Electric Golf Cart.



— EMERSON

“DO NOT GO WHERE THE PATH MAY
LEAD - GO INSTEAD WHERE THERE IS
NO PATH AND LEAVE A TRAIL”



“Gulliver”



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