

Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary @ Jumpin' Jack Ranch

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Spring 2007

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Letter from the President

Thank you all for your continued support of Equine Voices!! Because of you, we have saved over one hundred and sixty horses in the last two years, and have found loving homes for over seventy-five percent of them.

As the PMU industry downsizes, more and more mares and foals continue to need our help. Although the number of PMU farms are at their all time low (74 left in Canada), countless numbers of horses are still being sent to auction. Our hope this year is to find permanent loving homes for the mares and foals currently available for adoption so we can prepare for a large rescue in the fall. September is the critical time when the mares' and foals' fate is undecided and a time when the largest auction takes place in Manitoba. PMU farmers who have lost their pharmaceutical contracts decide on the fate of thousands of pregnant mares that are no longer useful to them. As you may know, many of them end up at slaughter, unless we help them!



Last month we were blessed with two baby fillies and a colt. All three mares, destined for slaughter, arrived here, a safe haven, where the births of their babies were embraced. A promise was made to them that they would find loving homes where they can run, play and be taken care of.

As we continue our efforts to save pregnant mares and relocate them to the sanctuary, we must build a facility suited for the births of these fragile foals. Currently they live in a three sided barn, without stalls, fenced by portable panels. Our goal this year is to raise the funds to offer a safer place for the new babies and the new pregnant mares we will be rescuing in the near future. Snakes and other reptiles could easily slither into the corral and the babies could easily get stuck under the fencing, and already have. Just this morning, I went outside after hearing panicked whinnies and found "Truffles" on the outside of the corral.

Last week we lost our beloved yearling, Mistral, to a rattlesnake bite. The 17 species of rattlesnakes that live in Southern Arizona are a danger to the mares and newborn foals. Our facilities need to improve to protect them from the painful death Mistral felt, but we need your help! In order to erect a mare motel and provide adequate fencing, we must raise \$29,000 so these babies can be safe. Last year I appealed to you to give up two Starbucks coffees, a movie or car wash, and donate just \$10.00. Many of you heard our call. If each of you gave just \$10.00 we would have the funding to build a safe barn for these babies.

In the past, your support has enabled us to reach our goals for the horses in our care. You have helped us provide a safe environment with adequate shelter and good fencing, plenty of hay, and critical veterinary care for our rescued horses. Now, as we rescue more pregnant mares, won't you help give our expectant mothers and newborn foals the shelter they need? All donations from this newsletter will be set aside until we have the funding to build a mare motel.

As we move forward in ending slaughter in the U.S. and educating the public about the plight of the PMU mares and foals, we will continue to help the horses that need us most.

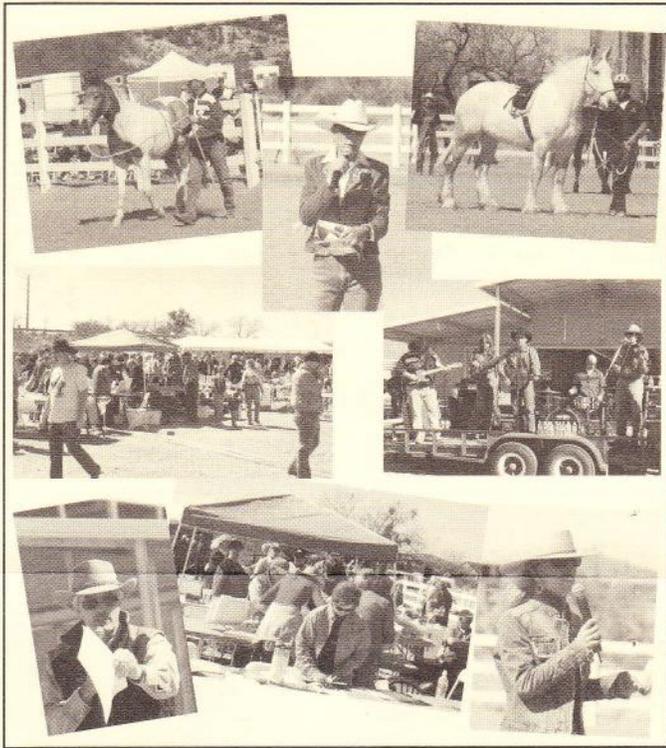
From my heart to all of you, thank you!

Karen Pomroy

Karen Pomroy
President/Founder

"Do not go where the
path may lead—
Go instead where
there is no path and
leave a trail"
~ Emerson





Equine Voices Third Annual Fundraiser

By Carol Grubb – Event Coordinator

March blew in like a lion on Saturday, March 5, 2007, as over one hundred volunteers braved the 25 mph wind gusts to set up for the 3rd Annual Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary Fundraiser. The spring winds and blowing dust were no match for the dedication and commitment of the planning committee and dedicated helpers. Thank goodness for duct tape! Thankfully, Mother Nature quieted down to a manageable breeze around noon with a beautiful day ahead for all involved. Thanks to the magnificent efforts of everyone involved, and the generosity of our community donors, the event cleared over \$21,000 to support the rescue and rehabilitation efforts of Equine Voices.

The opportunity to share the stories of some very lucky and much loved rescue horses is always my favorite part of the day. It shows the reality of what can be done to provide rehabilitation to horses who have come close to the end of the line. Our mascot, Gulliver, strutted his stuff again this year, taking his role of Ambassador to heart as the crowd heard the story of his journey and rescue from a PMU farm in North Dakota, to our Ambassador against horse slaughter.

The In Balance Ranch Academy presentation was a beautiful example of the reciprocal healing that can take place between horses and humans. The compassion and ability to reach out and help another being makes us all better humans. Our dream is to someday be out of a job, with a kind and loving home for every horse. We shall continue the dream, and with the help of our community, we can make it happen!

A big heartfelt Thank You to everyone who helped make it happen again this year. Special thanks to planning committee members Karen Pomroy, Kathy Tucker, Suzi Bellier, Rene Iotti, Dorothy Black, and Mary Howard, the individuals and businesses who donated to the event, Andy Hersey Band, Armour Carriage Co. and our guest speakers. We welcome any of you to help with the event next year!

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Animal Communication Class

By Diedre Pelligrini

As a recent retiree and newcomer to Green Valley, I'm always on the lookout for new and different activities. I've always had great love and respect for animals, and want to learn more about their feelings and reasons for behavior. When an article describing the Animal Communication class at Equine Voices appeared in the Green Valley News, I decided to enroll. This would definitely be a change from over 30 years of numbers crunching!

I arrived on class day, and was greeted by our instructor, Anna Twinney—a soft spoken young woman who appeared to fill the room with a powerful yet peaceful energy. There were nine participants. As we each introduced ourselves and shared our reasons for attending it became clear to me that I was not there to observe Anna's skills (as I had thought), but to develop and demonstrate my own! Some of the participants believed they had established some communication with animals and wanted further guidance. Others, like me had never imagined the possibility.

Anna shared some of her experiences and assured us that we all had the ability to hear and speak to all creatures. She asked that we open our hearts and quiet our minds, then lead us through some very revealing exercises. Within a few hours, I was amazed and deeply moved by what I heard from the animals around me. I will never forget the experience—it lives with me. Anna Twinney's class is a must for anyone with a desire to make life richer.



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Join Us



Open House – The second Friday of each month, starting in June, from 3–5 pm. Come meet the horses we've saved, take a tour of the ranch and shop in Gulliver's store. The public is welcome!

Volunteer Orientation – The first Saturday of each month at 10 am. Learn about our volunteer program, and join our volunteer team. We couldn't do it without our volunteers!!

Volunteer Safety Class – Join Carol Grubb each month and learn the art of working with horses naturally. The skills and knowledge to safely and effectively assist the horses in our care and on their journey to recovery are necessary for the safety of both horses and humans. Please contact us for more information.

Youth Corral

A letter from Narissa Patrone



On April 6, 2007 four students from Sahuarita Key Club volunteered their time at Equine Voices. Key Club is a community service club. On this day the students had

the chance to experience what a typical day is like when caring for so many horses. They soon realized that work is never done! They cleaned the stalls and water buckets, but the best part was being able to spend time with these sweet creatures.

Thank you, Karen, for letting us spend the day with your four-legged friends!

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Successful Adoption Story

By Bonnie Vasquez

I adopted Cheyenne in July of 2006. She gets a little nervous, especially when horses come up from behind her, but I felt she was ready to ride on my birthday last December. But we go out on the trail every chance we get and we both do a little better each time. My son even took her to a gymkhanna show just to get her around other horses and she did very well. I thought that would have made her nervous, but it didn't.



I am so glad to have found Cheyenne, everything has worked out perfectly with her. She's different from the other horse. We have to keep her in a corral that is away from the others because she fights with them and hurts herself. I think she just prefers having her own space. So she's a little spoiled!

* * * * *

Thank You to All Our Sponsors

Have you considered speaking with your company about their gift matching program or their volunteer program? Many large companies, such as Bank of America, Wells Fargo, Intuit, and Olympus, will match your donation and/or financially donate to a non-profit for the hours you volunteer! If you sponsor a horse, your \$50 per month can turn into \$100 per month due to the generosity of your company...what a great way to make a difference in the lives of the PMU mares and foals in our care! Won't you take a moment and find out what your company does to give back?

Mistral's Eulogy

We did not have him long. His death was sudden and unexpected—complications from a rattlesnake bite. But his memory forever will be.

Mistral was a horse with a sense of humor. He arrived fearful and shy with humans, but his playful, comical and mischievous personality shone through as he taunted his half-sibling and pasture mate, Sundancer, frolicking and rearing like a young stallion.



Mistral had a connection with Deanna McCormick, a volunteer who worked training him. "Training sessions started face to face as I smeared vanilla chapstick on both our lips and noses. Mistral loved the smell and feel. He also loved to splash and play with water and I instinctively knew that all training needed to end on a light-hearted note with this young and whimsical colt. He was not a quick learner, but he worked hard and tried hard. A lesson once learned was rock solid. In this way, he and I were alike. Thank you, Mistral, for trusting me enough to scratch your cheek and rub your neck. Thank you, Mistral, for although you touched my life but briefly, you touched my heart forever..."

Deanna was there to hold and comfort Mistral as he drew his last breath. It thundered and rained just a little, with gusts of wind blowing that shocking and sad afternoon. Was this a trickle of tears sent from heaven, with a whisper of hoofbeats from that eternal pasture beyond? Perhaps this weather, somewhat similar to the 'mistrals' in France, and for which he was aptly named, was one last sign from up above—"Please remember me."

Little Mistral, you will be missed.

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Adoptable Horse of the Quarter

Calamity Jane is a very sweet and gentle horse. She is 17 years old, and was rescued from slaughter December, 2005. She came to Equine Voices as part of a rescue from a PMU farm in Alberta, Canada that was closing down. This pretty mare is a black Quarter horse, with a white star, and approximately 14.1 h. Calamity would make a wonderful family or companion horse. She would need further training under saddle. Her temperament is calm and she is a willing horse. For further information, please visit www.equinevoices.org, or call Karen at 520-298-2814, or Audrey at 520-290-4331, to schedule an appointment to meet Calamity.





PROGRAMS:

Adoption Program • Sponsorship Program • Volunteer Program
Youth Program • Education



Legislative Update – May 8, 2007

Today, an Illinois Senate Committee voted 7–0 to pass a bill banning the slaughter of American horses for human consumption overseas. The Humane Society of the United States applauded the Senate Committee and urged the full Senate to quickly pass this legislation.

The bill, H.B. 1711, passed the Illinois House last month and now moves to the full Senate. Governor Rod Blagojevich strongly supports the bill and has lobbied in favor of its passage.

“Horses are an integral part of American history,” said Wayne Pacelle, president and CEO of The HSUS. “They are our companions, not food animals. Horses should not be brutally killed to end up on a dinner table overseas. They deserve our protection. Lawmakers in Springfield recognize this. The Humane Society of the United States is grateful for their support.”

The Cavel International horse slaughterhouse in DeKalb, Ill., is the only active plant in the country killing horses for human consumption. After a federal court ruled that the U.S. Department of Agriculture could not provide inspections of horses about to be slaughtered, the plant was shut down.

Last week, an appeals court stayed the ruling, temporarily

allowing the DeKalb plant to resume operations until an appeal could be heard.

On the federal level, U.S. Rep. Janice Schakowsky (D-Ill.) is a sponsor of a separate bill, H.R. 503, which would ban horse slaughter for human consumption nationwide.

Take Horses Off the Menu Forever

U.S. Residents: Tell Congress to permanently ban the slaughter of American horses for human consumption and the export of live horses to Canada and Mexico for slaughter.

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Special Event Contributions to Equine Voices – Thank You!

Me Magazine – January and February subscriptions – \$750
Coyote Wore Sideburns – Annual Cut-a-Thon – raised \$705
Unity Church of Peace – Charity of Choice for the month of March – \$350

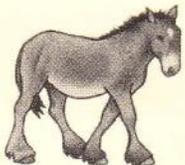
Equihealer – Equine Massage Class – \$280

Anna Twinney – 5th Reach Out to Horses Clinic/Fundraiser – \$2,000

Tucson Mountain Riders – Poker Ride – \$1,020 – \$700 Ride, \$300 Cathy Erchull, \$20 Catherine Radford – donation

Shop at: www.CountrySupply.com - 5% of the proceeds will go to supporting Equine Voices
www.aspectgifts.com - 10% of the proceeds will go to supporting Equine Voices

**Write to Congressman and Senators Opposing Horse Slaughter • Write to Wyeth Opposing Premarin
Urge Delta and American Airlines to stop shipping horse meat to Europe and Asia**



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