

Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary

@ Jumpin' Jack Ranch

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Fall 2009

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The Day From Hell

By Tom O'Neil

Ever since I have been a squirrely high school teenager giving my homeroom class the weekly student council report, I have had this embarrassing tendency to get dry mouth, you know, like the feeling you get when the Russian army just trampled through your mouth! It's that feeling of not being able to swallow or talk because you're wrought with emotion, and, let's face it, it's really embarrassing. This is a day that I will long remember, it was a day that started out like any other Equine Voices' rescue day at 7AM, took an awful turn in the middle (dry throat), but ended up about 15 hours later with that feeling of, "that's why we do what we do!" But let's start at the beginning...

Solo Vino, a beautiful six year old bay gelding, suffered a traumatic head injury in February. He was found wandering, dazed, in central Arizona, with a gaping 3 1/2" deep gash in his forehead, possibly from a 2"x4", requiring immediate surgery and a lengthy recovery period. Through the kindness of our many donors and the tireless hands-on selflessness of Gwen Cleary, Solo was ready to come to EV on Thursday, so away we went on an "easy" mission to pick him up in Phoenix. Upon arriving at Gwen's, Karen decided to have Gwen check to see if the fates of a certain mini-mule and mare, thought to be sold at Pacific Livestock Auction (PLA), could be determined. "Detective" Cleary amazingly found the two at a local "killer" buyer's home destined to be shipped the next morning to Mexico for slaughter. Karen, doing what she does best, decided that rescuing them was the only solution-I could see my simple day dramatically changing before my eyes. Since she was the only one who knew the killer buyer, Gwen rearranged her day so that she should come along with us and act as middle-man (or would that be middle person?) So, groaning at the prospect of having to move everything in the dog-oriented rear seat of my F350, I began shifting boxes of tools, rearranging the blanketed seats, and removing the contrivances which made the rear seats into a level 5' X 6' platform for my dogs. Hey, I'm spoiled, I admit it, and I was not a happy camper! With me mumbling under my breath, Gwen slipped in and began guiding us to our unintended destination, a major Arizona killer buyer's house north of Phoenix.



To say the next few hours were uncomfortable would be an understatement. The aura of this facility was overwhelming, the mental stench was nearly too much to bear. One could feel death in the air, and I began by reacting as I had in high school-my throat was so dry a moisture detector placed there would have registered negative! We began by loading a sweet, scared, and relieved little Jenny (mule) and tying her securely in the front of Karen's 4-horse gooseneck. We immediately found that the mare, for which we had done an about-face to pick up, thankfully was adopted. Gwen spied a cute, scared bay mare way back in one of the corrals, apparently with a broken shoulder. You can see what was coming, can't you?

Karen was not about to leave this girl to the fate of the killer buyer, I think her words were something like, "we are not leaving that horse here", but with a few more adjectives. The next day, if left there, this mare would be mercilessly driven, hobbling, into an overcrowded, hot, filthy trailer, driven to Mexico, and inhumanely shot with a captive bolt before being slaughtered. She likely would have been trampled in the trailer by healthier, larger horses, and then unceremoniously dragged from its confines, screaming, into the "kill-box" destined to begin the unimaginable route to someone's dinner table in France or Japan. NOT HAPPENING is Karen's favorite slogan and it was about to be put into play. Let it be known that I was getting sick to my stomach at the thought of loading this beautiful creature, limping, no, staggering, painfully on three legs, into our trailer. I was sick of any direction we might take: I didn't want to be the one to coax her 250 feet to the loading door, cope with the next few hours of, who knows what, and, I didn't want to leave her either. I just wanted to be somewhere else. Give me the comforts of my five horses, two dogs, and chubby cat-just get me out of here! But it wasn't going to happen. As I have come to painfully realize, once Karen gets something in that blond noggin, it's not about to leave peacefully or without a fight. Gwen guided the sweet limping mare slowly to the rear of the trailer, and we guided her unwillingly up and into the rear section with an assist by Mr. Killer-buyer. She moved by placing all of her weight, as Mother Nature dictated, on her rear legs and hopped forward inch by painful inch. There she stood, teetering on 3 legs, but standing in the trailer, scared, wondering what was to happen next, and, emotionally we drove away, slowly, to give her a chance to remain standing. Next stop, East Valley Equine, Dr. Cooper, to evaluate the extent of our newest rescue's injury.

The kindness and gentleness of Dr. Cooper and his assistant is not to be minimized. Yet to be named "Bay Girl" was tenderly X-rayed while we held our breath. It was now about 2:30 in the afternoon, and I should have been back at the ranch sipping a Coors with one new acquisition. Instead, fate had us opening the newest episode of 'Horse Emergency at Equine Voices' at a time

**"Do not go where the path may lead -
Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail"**

~ Emerson

when donations are lagging in a slowing economy, Karen is stressing because of finances, and the latest vet bill was beginning to dismally accrue before our eyes. And, we hadn't even accomplished our original and singular goal of retrieving Solo Vino. Yikes, my brain was gradually reaching the unwelcomed conclusion that this was going to be a long day. As I held the quiet head of Bay Girl, it occurred to me that my life had certainly taken a turn 5 years ago when I became involved with Equine Voices while looking for a stall mate for my beloved sorrel Arab gelding. Instead of guiding new, young buyers through their first enjoyable real estate purchase, I found myself hoping against hope that this small suffering mare might not be damaged as much as we originally thought. But, alas, this was not the case. The last X-ray showed that above the right knee was a good sized fracture and how she stood there quietly next to me, waiting patiently, was beyond me. I was beginning to latch on to this beautiful creature, I couldn't help it, she was very sweet and seemingly content to trust her fate to caring strangers. Now we were faced with a decision, namely, whether or not to give her a chance by initiating surgery, which was not this vet's specialty and probably \$5,000-\$6,000+ that we didn't have, or, let her go across the rainbow bridge, a certain fate 3 hours ago. Plus, this meant transporting her again, across town to southwest Gilbert, something I dearly wanted to avoid for the second time. Ugh, my past real estate career, absent of these emotional ups and downs, was beginning to look better and better. Why didn't I stay retired?

Not surprisingly, Karen opted to go to the next step, and figure out the money issue later. We had done it for Solo Vino and Kachina, maybe we could do it for Bay Girl, after all, she is only twelve years old and could have a full recovery and live a completely functional life. So, we again guided her back into the trailer, and I winced, as I am sure she did, with each step. I couldn't believe she actually agreed to get back in, it had to hurt like hell, even though she was laced with pain killers. We trucked on to the next stop, Arizona Equine Medical Center. Dr. Scott Taylor, because of a prior successful outcome with an Arab rescue of mine, held our utmost confidence. Bay Girl, with great effort, exited our 4-horse and on hard, uncompromising concrete, hobbled as best she could to the evaluation room for more X-rays. With every step my heart hurt, it had to be painful, every move looked excruciating. Animals are amazing, their pain threshold is enviably very high. I cringe at the thought of splinter removal. We waited patiently for the new prognosis, and, as God can only design, it wasn't too bad! A metal plate with screws could be surgically placed to hold and brace her leg, at an appreciated reduced cost because of our rescue status, which would probably make her leg as good as new. The odds were about 80-20 in favor of a complete recovery largely dependent on the mare's ability to cope with the new repair. Some never make it, we were guardedly confident that hopefully ours would. We left the hospital about 5:30, mentally tired but somewhat renewed with hope. She was resting comfortably, for the first time, in her new stall knee deep in shavings, no doubt puzzled by the day's events but surprisingly calm in her strange new surroundings. We had developed great affection for this girl in a short time, she is obviously a trooper and we needed to again wait for another nebulous outcome. But, this had to wait because the last leg of our journey had yet to unfold, retrieving Solo Vino, left at Gwen's with his friends, soon to be whisked away to his new domain at Equine Voices in Amado.

It was about 6:30PM when we arrived at Gwen's and began preparing to load a horse that hated being loaded, reared dangerously, and probably wouldn't want to go. Having apparently had a bad prior experience, Solo was going to require a lot a patience and I wasn't sure how much we had left. This day was pretty exhausting, but somehow we needed to suck it up and plod forward. Fate was again on our side...it seems that Solo had an unexpected lust for a cute little mare, or, in this case, a, uh, ...a mule! It was love at first sight. We unloaded the sweet pony-sized Jenny while we drank some needed sustenance, and, to our surprise, a miracle ensued. Solo seemed quite enamored with Jenny and proceeded to follow her all around Gwen's property, alas, he wouldn't leave her alone! While she gently warned and kicked, Solo was undaunted...she was his and that was that! His ring bone was almost unnoticeable as he chased after her, it was fun to watch, ain't love grand! Maybe we could turn this into an advantage. Maybe he would load with her in the trailer. So, we tried, for more than an hour, unsuccessfully, to invite him in with her standing there, tied, sweating profusely, patiently, in the front of the trailer.

As a last ditch effort, we decided to bring her out and have Gwen lead Solo Vino while Karen attended to Jenny, leading her in first, while I had the difficult task of manning the door. In walked Jenny, and, to our surprise, in walked Solo Vino right behind...ah, miracles shall never cease! I finished my tough duty of door closure and out the front gate we went, duo in hand, homeward bound! Hey, it was only 9:30-the night was young. Man, was I tired, ...but happy, and satisfied. Now, barring any calamity on the way home, we will have had a very successful, albeit stressful day. Unloading them was a piece of cake-open the door and out they popped, with Solo following Jenny of course. It was near midnight... Man, what a day. Oh yes, we have named the nicely recuperating bay girl "Taylor", of course!

As I write, it is the 20th, the sweet "Taylor" is home at EV, with 60 days of complete rest in front of her. **If you would like to help us with Taylor's vet bill, as many of you did for Solo Vino, we would greatly appreciate it. Please know that any amount big or small will make a huge difference in this brave and beautiful girl's life.**

Successful Adoption

By Phoebe Harris



My husband and I went to Equine Voices to find a horse for my husband and a companion for our mare. We were intrigued by Equine Voices in that we are strong supporters in adoption and rescue organizations that focus on providing a second chance and new beginnings for all animals.

We had brought our horse – "Sterling", a 12 year old retired Thoroughbred racehorse mare from Washington State – with us on our move to Arizona. Sterling would never stand to be on our little ranch by herself so we were looking for a good fit for our family and for Sterling (a good fit for an ornery mare – is there such a thing?). It only took us one meeting with Strider and the decision was made. His coloring, size, sweet disposition, and kind eye made the decision very easy. Now for the Sterling test . . .

Karen and Tom delivered Strider to our little ranch in late April of this year. Once off the trailer and in the arena, Strider took off running, throwing his head and whinnying to anyone who would listen. And someone was listening and returning the calls – Miss Sterling! Sterling stood there in awe (or in love – still cannot determine which) of her new buddy (or boyfriend the way she sees it) and we all kept our fingers crossed hoping that everyone would place nice in the sandbox (and in the stalls and arena!). Playing nice they did and now we only have one small problem – Sterling and Strider are inseparable. They have bonded with one another and the bond grows stronger everyday. What an amazing thing – a 2 year old and a 12 year old acting as if they had been together for life and knowing that they were at their home to stay.

Equine Voices' mission is to provide a second chance to mares and foals coming from the PMU industry and to provide a safe haven for all other horses in need. Strider arrived at Equine Voices as a 6 month old PMU colt – and he got his second chance and new beginning on the Equine Voice Ranch. Likewise, Sterling, a registered Thoroughbred with bloodlines from Bold Ruler (Secretariat's Sire) was also granted a second chance in life when purchased by a friend of ours in Washington at a local auction with killer-buyers in the audience. Our friend actually outbid the kill-buyer by \$25 for Sterling – for a total sale price of \$550.

My husband and I are delighted with and cherish every moment with our little "family" on the ranch. Strider is learning all of the basics of ground manners and ground work for his future as a pleasure riding horse and Sterling is advancing in her ambitions of upper-level dressage. As each day unfolds

(and begins each morning with free turn-out, play and grooming – quite a routine!) we not only learn more about what we can do to help these horses learn and excel in their lives, but we also learn that we should always be forever thankful to those persons that gave our horses their second chance and allowed us to take them into our lives and our hearts forever. We received a Congratulations card from Equine Voices after we adopted Strider – and in the note it read – “thank you for giving Strider a forever home.” A forever home he has – with his girlfriend Sterling and two humans who think the world of them and will do anything within our human power to always provide them with the love, attention, security and essentials they need to live out the rest of their lives loving their second chance and new beginning!

Thank you to Equine Voices for allowing us to adopt such a magnificent horse and thank you for using our adoption monies to find another “Strider” that deserves a second chance, a new beginning and a forever home!

Upcoming Events

Raffle

Win this handmade recycled leather cuff bracelet by Heart of a Cowgirl. All proceeds will go to Taylor’s veterinary bill. Tickets are only \$2.00. Log on to <http://heartofacowgirl.blogspot.com/2009/raffle-time.html>. Buy your tickets now, raffle ends September 14th, drawing will be held on September 15th.



Training Classes With Carol Grubb Volunteers and the public are welcome!

When: September 12th, 2009, 8:30am - 11:30pm
October 17th, 2009, 9:00am - 12:00pm
November 14th, 2009, 9:00am - 12:00pm
December 5th, 2009, 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Where: Equine Voices Sanctuary
Amado, AZ

Fall Open House & Art Fair

Come and meet Solo Vino, Kachina and our newest rescue Taylor.

When: Sept 26th, 2009, 10:00am - 3:00pm
Where: Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary, Amado, AZ
Tour the facility, meet our residents, have a snack and cold drink and get an early start on your holiday shopping at Gulliver’s Gift Shop

Benefit in Bedford NY

When: October 24, 2009
Where: 382 Cantitoe St. Bedford, NY
Great food, music, friends and fabulous auction
For more information, log on to www.Equinevoices.org

Third Annual Wine Tasting and Silent Auction Gala

When: Nov. 1, 2009, 4pm-7pm
Where: Hacienda del Sol, Tucson, AZ
Music by Becky Reyes, Wines by Colibri Vineyards, Kief Joshua, Lightning Ridge Cellars and Republic Distributing, food, silent and live auctions, raffles and more!



For more information contact Carrie 520-398-9312

Reach out to Wisdom - Just three days away from your destiny

When: November 14th-16th - 9am-6pm
Where: Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary,
Amado



For more information log on to reachouttohorses.com

Lolly's Story

By: Karen Wineinger

When Karen asked me to check on a horse that needed help, I didn't hesitate. I drove over to the home preparing myself for what I might find. The owner told Karen the horse was a skeleton, but that could mean anything from a couple of ribs showing to hide hanging on bone. My heart sank as I pulled into the driveway. One glance and I knew it was the latter.



There was a large pressure sore caked with manure on her hip which jutted out sharply from her side. Her ribs were so drawn in I could touch the inside of her rib cage. Too weak to pick up her feet, she dragged them as she walked. The wear marks were almost to the coronet band. I had seen skinny horses before but this was the worst.

The question remained: could this mare be saved or would it be a greater kindness to set her free? There was only one place I needed to look for an answer—her eyes. Inside this shell of a starved, weakened horse covered with sores was a light, bright, clear and full of the will to live. Lolly was released to Equine Voices.

Too weak to make the trip to Amado (the home of Equine Voices), she was taken to a way station a few miles from her home. The trip was slow going. Lolly swayed in the trailer as we traveled down the road.

When we pulled into her new home, she was greeted by three other horses—Gus, a 32-year-old gelding, who was almost as thin as her upon rescue, Fergie, a 21-year-old PMU mare, and Venus, a 2-year-old PMU filly. Lolly stepped into a new corral set up just for her. After a few moments, she dropped her nose into a bucket of mash prepared in anticipation of her arrival. And so began her long road to recovery.

It is wonderful to watch her steadily regain her strength, to feel the sharp edges of bones soften. Her sores are healing. She walks with more energy. Her personality outshines her appearance. She is a real people horse. People have commented on how sweet she is. She follows everyone around like a big puppy.

Her shocking appearance stirs up a wide range of emotions in all who see her. The question is asked, “How could anyone watch this happen in their backyard?” I can think of only one answer—pride. They are too proud to admit there's a problem, too proud to ask for help, and then too ashamed to let anyone see what they've done.

It will take time for the beautiful blood bay Arabian to regain her full glory. She is such a wonderful being. I am so glad her owners swallowed their pride and did the right thing before it was too late.

To the Rescue

By: Carol Grubb

There is exciting news at the National level for rescued horses. The Humane Society of the United States, and Natural Horsemanship trainers Pat and Linda Parelli, have joined forces to spotlight not only the plight, but the potential of horses who have ended up in rescue organizations across the country.



"Many horses who end up at rescues are not there because they are "bad " or broken, but because their owners did not have the knowledge or resources to build a successful relationship with them. The Parelli Natural Horsemanship methods of training teaches how to communicate effectively with horses, setting the stage for a long, successful relationship," said Keith Dane, director of equine protection for The Humane Society of the United States." Pat Parelli said, "Our greatest initiative in the horse industry is to help people have more successful relationships with horses and to not treat them as disposable items. Too many people get out of horses because they get frustrated or afraid, and too many horses suffer as a result...together we can change that."

In 2009, at each of the seven Parelli "Celebration" tour stops, the Humane Society of the United States is working with a local rescue group to identify a rescue horse in need of training. Over the course of the 3 day events, Pat Parelli works with the horse, demonstrating techniques to communicate effectively, build a lasting partnership, and equip horse owners with knowledge and tools to interact effectively. At the end of each event, the rescue horse is available for adoption.

The Parellis have also donated a generous collection of their program materials to the Humane Society of the United States. These resources are now available for check out to 501(C)3 rescue organizations free of charge. The materials are maintained through the HSUS via a "lending library" format. Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary was the first rescue in the United States to participate in this program! Many of the techniques and concepts have been incorporated into our "Safe Horse Courses" curriculum for horses and humans. Watch the website for more information on upcoming classes at Equine Voices!

Pat and Linda Parelli have also been very supportive of the Equine Voices Annual Fundraiser with donations of their training materials for our Silent Auction. At the July Parelli "Celebration" in Kansas City, Equine Voices had an opportunity to personally thank the Humane Society of the United States and Pat and Linda Parelli for their support. Keith Dane, Director of Equine Protection for the HSUS, accompanied me as I presented a special appreciation plaque to Pat Parelli, sent from Gulliver and all his friends at Equine Voices. I shared with Pat and Keith pictures of several of our rescue horses: Little Miss and Marianne, Rene' and Bravo, Kachina, and of course Mr. G, our gentle giant mascot Gulliver! The closing message from Pat Parelli at the event was very powerful and emphasized the newly forged partnership with his organization and the Humane Society of the United States. Anyone considering breeding, whether it be dogs, cats, or horses, needs to clearly think through their decision before producing a new litter or that cute foal. There was thunderous applause when he said "Rather than bringing more into the world, we need to become better Stewards of the animals we already have." Hats off to Pat for that message! Thanks and appreciation to Pat Parelli and the Humane Society of the United States.

Thank you for Caring. Thank you for Sharing

Babies on board! Foals born to Canadian mares

In 2007, when a PMU farm in Canada shut down, Equine Voices worked with United Pegasus Foundation to find homes for the majority of the 200 or more horses that were suddenly "out of work." Horses from this farm, such as Mystic,

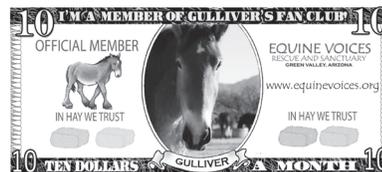
Kodi, Sunshine and Gracie, were purchased by Equine Voices and brought to Arizona. But some had to be left behind. Thankfully, the owner of the farm allowed Equine Voices to purchase five additional mares and keep them at his farm for \$75 a month per horse.

This spring, the number of Canadian horses Equine Voices owns doubled when each of the five mares gave birth to a foal! While we would love to bring all 10 horses to Southern Arizona, that prospect seems unrealistic at this time due to lack of space. Equine Voices is now looking for loving homes for the new foals which can be viewed on our website. Our goal is to bring the babies to Arizona in the fall. If we can pre-adopt any of the foals we may either bring the mares home or will have room to save more babies.

If you are interested in adopting a foal or a mare and foal, please contact Karen at (520)398-2814.

GULLIVER'S FAN CLUB

Rose Augst • Pamela Brown • Bridget Berthiaume • Marjorie Carlson • Katherine Carlson • April Crabtree • Barry & Denise Christy • Michelle Crow • Sandra & Claude Crowe • Debra Cummings • Charles Deeby • Karen Diller • Kim Dove • Ronald Dove • Neale & Christine Duncan • Linda Eddy • Pamela Ensign • Eileen Evans • Dinah & Robert Felihkatubbe • Margaret Fiore • Julianne French • Eva Fritz • Carrie Gayne • Alice Goodard • Kurt & Nancy Grange • Judy Griffin • Christine Hackett • Maureen Harrison • Barbara Holthouse • Gerald Hughes • Carol Jennings • Eleanor Joyce Jones • Mary Lu Kennedy • Jonathan & Jane Klein • Rosiland Kleuver • Sandra Leeman & Randy Gramlich • Carolyn Lefever • Paula Madden • Kathi-Jane Mahon-Haft • Dana & Jonathan McKenna • D & L Mosbarger • Tom O'Neil • Jennifer Patton • Carol Piklor • Lynda Pierce • Marjo Roth • Richard & Sharon Rundle • Susan Schmidt • Charles & Joan Smith • Deb Smoot • Joanne Spencer • Nancy & Bill Sproull • Douglas & Brenda Stermer • Elaine Stevens • Jody Storm • Marcy Tigerman • Kerry Tomlinson • Kathy Truders • Joseph Truttman • Mary "Mag" Turner • Lizbeth & Gerald Varney • Jean Welch • Troy Williams • Ruth Zebb



MONTHLY HORSE SPONSORS

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Businesses recognize the need for feed

By Carrie Gayne

The economic downturn has challenged many of us, and we've had to make sacrifices and rethink how we spend our money. Unfortunately, our animals can suffer from the difficult financial choices we face.

Equine Voices has seen this first hand. You need not look further than the corrals at Jumpin' Jack Ranch to see the faces of horses affected by the weak economy. Carlie's former owner lost his job and stopped feeding her. She was wasting away in the backyard before she was rescued by Equine Voices. Savannah was set loose in the desert to survive on her own because her owner couldn't afford to feed her. In addition to these cases, many horse owners have been seeking help from our Euthanasia Fund which offers financial assistance to those lacking the sufficient funds to have their old or sick horses humanely euthanized.

Thankfully, some acknowledge the hardships these horse owners encounter and the burden it adds to rescue groups that absorb the responsibility of caring for these animals.

Recently, Equine Voices received a great deal of assistance from three generous businesses—Reata Equine Veterinary Group, LLC of Tucson, Tucson Feed and Pet Food, and Purina Mills, LLC. On April 25, Reata and Tucson Feed held a Community Event Rummage Sale and sold donated horse-related items. Proceeds from the event benefited horse rescues in Southern Arizona. In conjunction with this, Tucson Feed and Purina sponsored "Buy a Needy Horse a Bag of Purina Horse Feed" in which Purina matched each donation of a bag of feed. Equine Voices received a donation of 40 bags of Purina Senior Equine Feed!

One of the first horses to benefit from the donation is Patrick. Patrick was rescued by Lorilei and Elisa of Desert Springs Equestrian Center, Equine Voices' satellite facility. Patrick, was the worst starvation case Karen had ever seen. Patrick is growing stronger each day thanks to the generosity of Reata, Tucson Feed and Purina! A huge "THANK YOU" to all three.

The Story Behind Gulliver's Travels

By Rose Mayer

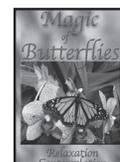
My name is Rose Mayer and my husband, Larry, and I had the privilege of producing the new DVD for Equine Voices--Gulliver's Travels from Slaughter to Sanctuary. I had heard about EV many years ago while volunteering for Access Tucson, our local community television on Cox Cable. Karen was featured on their Local Matters program. We didn't volunteer at that time due to raising a family, building a ceramic tile business and caring for the two horses we had at that time. Years went by, the family grew up and moved away, we lost both horses to colic in less than a year's time and then health reasons required the retiring from business.

During those intervening years, I discovered my passion for video, since all I wanted to do was video our horses. Larry rediscovered his talent for photography. We now had the opportunity to change our focus and to do what gave us joy. Together we decided to combine our talents and our love for nature in the creation of our new business, Unique Views of Nature. We produce nature themed videos and blank notecards featuring Larry's beautiful photographs. After meeting Karen this past Thanksgiving in person, we knew that she was valid, had the highest ideals and integrity, and we wanted to help the horses. We decided to produce the EV DVD with the intention of not receiving any profits from any aspect of the production of the DVD or its sales. All proceeds go directly to the horses. This is the best way we could honor the memories of our two beloved horses and to assist the horse species that appears to be under attack from all sides. And we are most appreciative to Karen in her gratitude

of gift certificates, especially to help get our website underway!

As we began producing the DVD we came from the position of someone wanting their questions answered about EV; what is it, it's validity, what is it about, what are all of the programs, what are PMU mares and foals, who is Gulliver--because those were our questions. When we met and talked to all of the wonderful volunteers, we really became aware that the reason the EV organization is so extraordinary is due to the volunteers. We only wish that we could have included every volunteer that we talked to on the DVD. There were many, many times that I didn't capture on video what someone was saying because I was so moved that I had to set the camera down and compose myself. Then I would look over and see that Larry was having as much trouble as I was! Little did we know that we were in training for what was coming when we went to interview the marvelous people who had adopted PMU mares and foals. To see the love, trust and bond between the horses and their guardians is beyond description. To hear the stories about how the love of humans has dramatically changed the life of horses was inspiring. We felt honored to be able to try and capture all of that on film. Our only regret is that we couldn't include everything we captured due to time constraints. And our hope is that we were able to convey to you, the audience, all of the dedicated commitment and love we saw and experienced from everyone associated with Equine Voices. The whole project was truly a labor of love for us. No, not labor, but a joyful experience of growth for us.

For your very own copy of "Gulliver's Travels from Slaughter to Sanctuary" go online to equinevoices.org.



If you are interested in purchasing any of these DVDs, please log on to www.uniqueviewsofnature.com.

Ribbons In The Sky For Big Bud

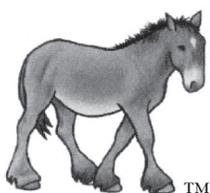
By Anne Worthen

"Ribbons in the sky" by Stevie Wonder has been my favorite song for many decades, and today, this song is for Big Bud.



I love you for so many reasons. The way your ears perk up when I whistle to you in the field and you walk toward me to meet me half way; how you love to have your face cleaned with a cool cloth, and can sense any kind of medicine in your food no matter how cleverly I try to disguise it. I love the way you used to play that game with me - I ask for your right hoof and you give me your left - or how you search my pockets for carrots in your playful, sneaky way. I think it's funny that, like most males, you really like boobs. You are also the most handsome horse at the ranch; everyone was always impressed by your stature and brutish elegance.

I will never forget how utterly fascinated you were with the dwarf ponies that were at the ranch one weekend - they were literally the size of small dogs - and you marveled at their presence and were so sweet to them. I wish I had a picture of that. The baby horses, and the "teenagers" at the ranch were always mesmerized by you....to them, you were a God. Every time we walked around to visit them, they would whinny and run around and greet you with wide eyes and twisted faces and tongues of respect. They loved your visits, and I know how much you enjoyed being the leader of this ranch. Maybe you didn't get along with everyone, whether horse or human, but that's ok.



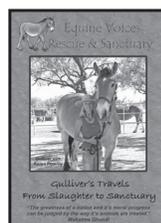
Equine Voices
 Rescue & Sanctuary
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PROGRAMS

Adoption Program • Sponsorship Program • Gulliver's Fan Club
 Volunteer Program • Euthanasia Fund • Youth Program • Education

You were a private kind of guy, a monogamous kind of guy, and a tough dude. I don't know what it was, but we bonded on day one. Throughout the years, you have tested me and challenged me and even tried to bite and kick me a few times, but I laughed or said no, you did too, and we moved beyond that. I'm sorry that you weren't treated fairly for most of your life, and I'm glad you were rescued and brought to the sanctuary where you could be respected by all who came into your presence. I love you with every piece of my shattered heart, Bud, and I will never forget you, and the incredibly rewarding friendship we shared. You are deeply missed.



We now can bring Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary to you!! We are delighted to announce our new DVD - "Gulliver's Travels from Slaughter to Sanctuary" produced by Larry and Rose Mayer with Unique Views of Nature (www.uniqueviewsofnature.com) For only \$10.00 you can have your very own copy!!! Buy while they last from our website or by contacting Carrie at 520-398-9312. We hope you enjoy this wonderful DVD!! With deep gratitude to Larry and Rose!!

How You Can Help

- *Join Gulliver's Fan Club!! For only \$10 per month you can belong to Gulliver's exclusive fan club, receive his very own sticker and have access to member's only blog!!! Sign up today by calling Carrie at 520-398-9312 or by logging on to our website and donate online!!
- *Donate to the Solo Vino Fund or Taylor's fund
- *Help us with our euthanasia fund. Help us help horse owners give their horses a dignified and painless death
- *Sponsor a horse. For only \$50 per month you can sponsor your favorite Equine Voices' horse
- *Volunteer
- *Adopt a horse
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- *Come to our events!! They are fun and all proceeds benefit the horses!!

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www.1800petmeds.com/mypartner/EVAMADO - 10% of the proceeds will go to supporting Equine Voices

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 Urge Delta and American Airlines to stop shipping horse meat to Europe and Asia**