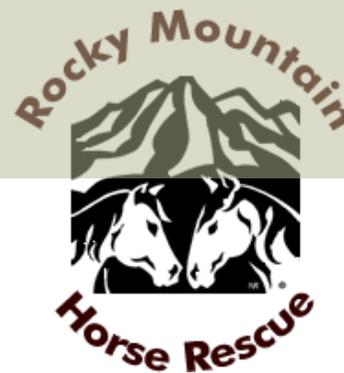


HOOFPRI NTS & LETTERS

WINTER 2025/2026

VOLUME 23

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.ROCKYMOUNTAINHORSE RESCUE.ORG



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

Buttermilk

In December of 2024, I saw a Facebook post on Colorado Horse Rescue Networks page about a sweet mare named Buttermilk that they had rescued. Buttermilk needed a very expensive surgery, a pastern arthrodesis, which they felt they could not allocate funds towards, so she was going to sadly be euthanized. Colorado Horse Rescue Network takes in hundreds of horses a year, so understandably, their money has to be put to use in other ways than on a surgery with an unknown prognosis on a horse that would ultimately probably not be adoptable.

We run a much smaller Rescue, but because of our wonderful supporters (I'm looking at you!), we had the available funds to take Buttermilk in and pay for her.

Shortly after January 1st, Buttermilk was delivered to Littleton Equine Medical Center for her surgery. The first of many upcoming surprises was that the small scratch on her left eyeball was not in fact a scratch at all, but rather a detached retina and glaucoma, and Buttermilk was blind in that eye. The vets there felt that probably at some juncture she would have to have that eye removed, but not immediately. (I pretended to myself that that was good news. (I'm cute like that.)

At any rate, the next day, Buttermilk went in for her surgery. The surgery, in very basic terms, involves drilling screws through her pastern joint, to get the joint to fuse and hopefully eliminate the pain that she was experiencing from the joint rubbing together. The surgery went well!!! Hooray! Now we just needed to rehab her for many months.



**BUTTERMILK LEAVING LITTLETON CLINIC
AFTER HER SURGERY**

She started out on strict stall confinement, as she had a very large cast from her knee to her hoof. Fast forward a few months, and it was time for cast removal. Dr Shane Baird, from Mobile Veterinary here in Arvada, agreed to come to the farm to remove the cast, so Butter didn't have to ride in the trailer to LEMC for removal. One of our amazing farriers, Cade Overholt, met us there so he could shoe that foot as soon as the cast came off. That was the plan, anyway.

The cast, which was supposed to be "very simple to remove. Just pull the wires on either side and it will come right off" was not. When I say it was not "very simple" what I mean is, two full grown adult men with every kind of cutting tool ever invented almost keeled over from exhaustion trying to wrestle that thing off her leg. Somewhere around two hours later, it was off. By this point, Butter-



**DR. SHANE BAIRD AND CADE OVERHOLT USING
POWER TOOLS TO REMOVE THE CAST**

milks normally extraordinarily sweet temperament had been stretched far beyond its limit. Cade was able to put a shoe on that foot, but it was neither pretty nor fun for anyone. But onward and upward, as they say. We decided that going forward, that I would haul Buttermilk to LEMC and get her shod there for a few rounds, until her leg was more healed, because the vets really wanted her to have pretty extreme corrective shoeing, and it would be much easier at the clinic, from both a sedation and radiographic standpoint. So, a few weeks later, off we went. The first time, she was really so much better after the shoeing, I got excited. So much progress!!!

Then there was the second time.... The shoeing itself went without a hitch. She walked

(Continued on page 2)

**RMHR IS A
NON-PROFIT 501(c)(3)
ORGANIZATION
YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS
ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Buttermilk</i>	1-3
<i>Pepper</i>	4
<i>ASTAR Vocational</i>	5
<i>Donate as you Shop</i>	5
<i>What's Up Peaches?</i>	6
<i>What is Rescue?</i>	7
<i>Freddy</i>	8
<i>Jojo's Corner</i>	9
<i>RMHR Board</i>	9
<i>This and That</i>	10
<i>Rescue Equipment</i>	11
<i>Up For Adoption</i>	12
<i>RMHR Sponsorship</i>	13
<i>Bini's Favorite Stories</i>	14
<i>Moment in History</i>	14
<i>For Real Horse People</i>	15
<i>Thank You!</i>	16-17
<i>Gone but not Forgotten</i>	18-19
<i>Obstacle Course</i>	20
<i>Our Wonderful Vols</i>	21-25



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

Buttermilk (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

back to the trailer fairly comfortably, and we even moved her outside to a small pen when she got home!

I should mention, at this point, the weather had started to warm up, and Buttermilk's hair started falling out. And not in an exciting shedding out for spring kind of way, more in a giant patches of naked horse that itched like she was perpetually being attacked by a swarm of mosquitos' kind of way.

So, at the same time we were slightly optimistic about her leg, we were trying to figure out what in the world she was allergic to. Feed? Bedding? Fly spray? Air? (Spoiler alert: we never did figure it out). Zyrtec for months at a time was about the only thing that helped, and then she just kind of stopped itching. Not until after she looked like someone body clipped her with a lawn mower, but we took the win.) Anyway, just as we were all cautiously celebrating her apparent progress, she took a tremendous turn for the worse. She went from wanting to go on her slow handwalks to barely ever standing up overnight. We moved her back into a stall and called the vet. Dr Kate Baer from Mobile Veterinary came right out, and it was determined that she had a hoof abscess. Which really seemed like the best news! Easy to treat. Not long in duration. WRONG. (This is where if I knew then what

out every few days, trying everything he could think of to alleviate her pain. I don't know how many hours everyone spent on this, but I think we all aged about ten years apiece.

Euthanasia was discussed on multiple occasions, but everyone agreed that Butter wasn't giving up yet, and neither should we. It got to the point where almost anywhere on the sole of her foot that Tanner scraped with his hoof knife, pus would flow out. Practically the entire hoof was infected, and she couldn't stand to put any pressure on any part of her hoof without pain.

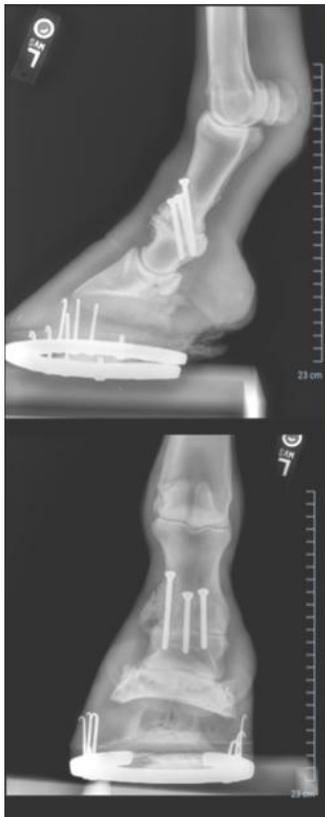
I thought we had really reached the end. I told Dr Baer I thought it was time to let her go, and she agreed. We were six weeks into this and had made no progress at all. Then Tanner said he had an idea, and could he just have one more chance? Only because when I looked into Buttermilk's eyes I saw a horse that wanted to live did I say yes. But ONE MORE chance. If this doesn't work, we have to let her go. So, in he came. He built her an entire foot out of casting materials which was longer than her natural foot and then nailed a shoe to that, so there was no pressure anywhere on her actual hoof. Then he said, "You have to make this horse walk. Preferably turn her out in a field so she has to move. If she doesn't start moving, she'll die." So here I am, with the horse that can barely stand up, and I'm supposed to turn her out. In a field. Oh. Ok. No problem.

The next morning, when I went to feed Butter, she was STANDING UP. Now, I know for a regular horse, this is not exactly a major milestone, but it had been well over a month since the last time I saw her standing up for no reason. So, I fed her, and then we went to the field. And you know what? She walked. On her foot. Again, for a regular horse, not exactly newsworthy, but this poor horse had been dangling her leg off the ground for weeks.

Now, I'm not going to say it was a fast or beautiful walk, but we made it to the field, and she got to eat



BUTTERMILK GETTING HER FIRST SET OF SHOES AT LITTLETON



RADIOGRAPHS OF BUTTERMILK'S PASTERNS AFTER SURGERY. NOTE THE SCREWS



BUTTERMILK GOES BACK INTO THE INDOOR ARENA AND STALL REST

I know now comes in.) For weeks we treated her abscessed hoof, and she just kept getting worse. We could barely get her to stand up long enough to radiograph and wrap her foot. She began to develop bed sores on her legs and hips from lying down so much. She could not walk more than about two steps at a time, because she was non weight bearing on that leg. The vet was out practically daily, just trying anything and everything to give her relief. Tanner Grass, another of our great farriers, came



IT'S HARD TO CAPTURE HOW AWFUL BUTTERMILK'S WALK WAS. SHE WOULD PULL BOTH HIND FEET FORWARD AND THEN HOP FORWARD ON ONE LEG



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

Buttermilk (continued)

(Continued from page 2)



BUTTERMILK ENJOYING HER DAILY GRAZING TIME

some grass and get a bit of sun. The next few weeks, it was the same drill every day. Feed her breakfast, go slowly to the field, go get her after a few hours. Every day, she would walk out there, graze a bit, and then come in and lie down for a snooze. I always left the gate to the field open, because honestly, it's not like she was a flight risk. A decapitated snail could have won a race with her still.

Then, one day, I looked out in the field and she wasn't there. We went on the hunt for her, and she had left the field and was out visiting the other horses. That became a daily ritual.



ONE OF BUTTERMILK'S FREQUENT "WHERE'S WALDO" LOCATIONS WAS IN OUR HAY BARN

Buttermilk's walkabouts became a daily event. We'd find her in the hay barn, over by one of her new boyfriends, or just generally wandering around. Until the day came that we couldn't find her, only to discover she had finished her walkabout and put herself away. She was happily stand-

ing in her stall, chomping on her hay. After that, we'd just put her out in the field, and then would go close her in her stall after she'd see herself home. The girl is a one-woman comedy show.



ONE OF THE COUNTLESS ANALYSES AND DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN FARRIER TANNER GRASS AND DR. SHANE BAIRD ON NEXT STEPS FOR BUTTERMILK'S FOOT

One day, I had not let her out the day before, because the weather was bad and when I was walking her out to the field, she was pulling me along. I got right to the place I normally turned her loose, and as I unclipped the rope, she reared and then spun around and GALLOPED AWAY!! The horse that mere months ago had been so dilapidated she could barely stand was galloping!!

Since then, she has moved back into her outside paddock, and we just leave her gate open after morning feeding so she can still do her walkabout if she wants to. Tanner has redone her feet multiple times now, and so far, so good. She's still rehabbing from her surgery, and based on her latest radiographs, the fusion is coming along well. Her hair has grown back, so she no longer looks like a mangy coyote, and she has really developed a pretty hilarious personality. I don't know what the rest of her life looks like, but she's most certainly happy for her "one more chance".

—Kris Nixon



BUTTERMILK AND FONZI HAVE A GROOMING SESSION



BUTTERMILK BACK OUTSIDE



BUTTER VISITS BUTCH



THE SHOE THAT SAVED BUTTERMILK'S LIFE



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

Pepper



ALTHOUGH STARVED ALMOST TO DEATH, PEPPER ALWAYS HAS A GREAT ATTITUDE



PEPPER ON ARRIVAL; EMACIATED AND COVERED IN BITE MARKS

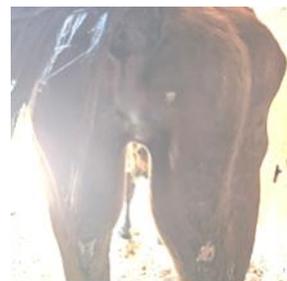


PEPPER'S ENERGY RETURNED QUICKLY; TROTTING IN THE ROUND PEN AFTER SEVERAL WEEKS



PEPPER ENJOYING ONE OF HIS LUNCHES AND LOOKING MORE LIKE A HORSE

Feeding older horses can be tricky, and often there is some amount of trial and error involved with amount of feed, type of feed, consistency, etc. I think a lot of people think they know what they're doing, but in fact don't have a clue how to care for a large, older horse with high calorie requirements. That's my charitable explanation for what happened to Pepper. My less charitable explanation is simply that he was almost starved to death by a



A BODY SCORE OF 0

person who oversaw him who just didn't care. Pepper came to us at 29 years old, with a body score of 0. He was covered in bite marks from living in a pen with a bunch of other horses who apparently did nothing but abuse him and kept him from even attempting to eat from the square bale of hay in the pen, which was covered with a slow feed hay net. Now, in fairness to those other horses, Pepper's teeth weren't good enough to get any of that hay out of the hay net in the first place, never mind actually chew it if he ever got any. To add insult to considerable injury, at some point very shortly before he got to us, someone had hacked his feet off with God knows what implements, so they were so short he was practically unable to walk. Needless to say, his prognosis seemed pretty grim. We started him off very slowly with tiny amounts of feed, and put Softride boots on his poor chopped off feet. The morning after he arrived, I was sure I'd find him dead in his pen, but no. There he was, in all his sad glory, waiting hopefully

for his next meal. For a horse that legitimately looked like he was just there for a peaceful death, his recovery was actually fairly uneventful, albeit rather slow. Pepper is a very large horse, so putting weight on was not a quick process. Fortunately, he loves to eat!

After some weeks of refeeding, once he had gained a bit of weight, we did a fecal sample for parasites and unsurprisingly, he was loaded with worms. After a course of wormer, his weight really started coming on. His bite marks faded away, his feet grew out, and he regained what I'm sure was his old personality. Pepper went from 850 pounds to 1300 over the course of the summer! What a champion! I have a real soft spot for the old guys, particularly the ones that come in after they've seemingly lost all hope. Watching a horse like Pepper go from being so exhausted and starved he barely came out of his barn, to hamming it up for horse treats and bashing his bucket against the fence at feeding time is just the best feeling in the world.

Pepper is almost at the perfect weight now, but it has not been fast or inexpensive. He eats 27 pounds of Senior a day, and 15 pounds of soaked alfalfa cubes. I think the most misunderstood part of owning a senior horse is their dietary requirements. Fortunately for Pepper, he doesn't currently have any metabolic issues, which only makes it harder to manage an old horse. We see this sad story over and over again, although certainly not usually as extreme as Pepper, but many, many older horses really end up in a lot of trouble because people don't understand how or how much to feed them.

If I could get people to understand one thing, it's that a vast majority of skinny and starved horses don't have a single medical thing wrong with them. They're just not getting fed enough or the right feed. But that's over for Pepper now. He doesn't have to be hungry anymore!

—Kris Nixon



PEPPER TODAY, ALMOST CHUNKY



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

ASTAR Vocational Visits



In May of this year, we hosted two groups of young adults from the ASTAR/Voices vocational



program. ASTAR/Voices assists these great people with vocational and occupational therapies. They asked if we might be

open to having them do a field trip out to the rescue, and we were thrilled to have them. Most of them had very little previous exposure to anything of the equine variety, so you can imagine how proud and excited they were when they conquered their fears and fed, brushed and petted the horses and mules. They had a ball, and so did we! We're hoping to have them out again in the spring, and many times in the future.



Donate as you shop at King Soopers/City Market

If you haven't heard of Kroger's Community Rewards program please take a minute to read this and sign up. When you create a digital account at King Soopers or another Kroger owned store you can designate a Community Rewards organization for your account. As you shop, you donate to that organization, AT NO ADDITIONAL EXPENSE TO YOU. Kroger donates annually to participating organizations based on your percentage of spending as it relates to the total spending associated with all participating Kroger Community Rewards organizations. We'd like you to pick us, but if not, please pick another beneficial organization. In the 3rd quarter of 2023 we received \$501 from 39 shoppers supporting RMHR.

1. Create a digital account—A digital account is needed to participate in King Soopers/City Market Community Rewards. If you already have a digital account, simply link your Shopper's Card to your account so that all transactions apply toward the organization you choose. If you have a Shopper's card but have never created a digital account; go to either:

<https://www.kingsoopers.com/account/create> -or-
<https://www.citymarket.com/account/create/>

If you have a Shopper's Card but have never created a digital account, you must do that first. After you have your account created, then login and perform the following steps.

2. Link your Card to an organization—Selecting the organization that you wish to support is as simple as updating the Community Rewards selection on your digital account.

- Sign-in to your digital account.
- Click on "My Account"
- Click on Community Rewards
- Search for "Rocky Mountain Horse Rescue" in the Find an Organization search box. Click on [Enroll].
- DONE! RMHR displays in the Community Rewards section of your account.

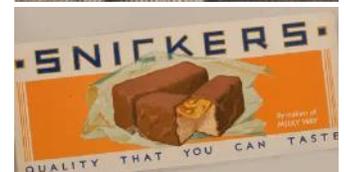
3. RMHR earns—Any transactions moving forward using your grocery Shopper's Card number associated with your digital account will be applied to the program.

Need help? Contact:

Email rockymountainhorserescue@gmail.com or
Call Rob Nixon at (303) 204-1898

DID YOU KNOW?

In 1930, the Mars family faced the heartbreaking loss of their beloved racehorse, Snickers. Just weeks later, they introduced a new candy bar named in his honor - creating what would become one of the world's most popular chocolate treats.





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

What are you up to now, Peaches?

It's been just over a year since Bell crossed the Rainbow Bridge. I worried about Peaches, my little mini, being alone. I wasn't sure if I wanted another horse—horse people don't exactly get spontaneous weekends away. A "simple getaway" ends up costing an arm, a leg once you line up horse care and pray the caretaker measures the hay right.

So instead of bringing home another horse, I brought home a few stuffed horses from the thrift store. And let me tell you—Peaches has fully adopted them as her new herd. She rearranges them in her stall, nudges them, and naps next to them like they're real.

These days, Peaches and I walk at the park every day. Rain, snow, wind, sun—we're out there. And when it's windy or raining that's when Peaches turns into a little greyhound and runs. I cannot tell you how many times I've stumbled or straight-up fell trying to keep up with that tiny turbo engine on hooves.

We aren't doing cart work much anymore, but if I hooked her up tomorrow, she'd slip back into her ground driving commands like she never stopped. Instead of pulling a cart, though, she's taken on a new job—one she chose herself. Peaches has become a PTSD support horse.

At the park, she meets people and dogs every single day. If I had a dollar for every person who has walked up and said, "Oh my gosh—I thought she was a big dog from far away!" I'd have about \$1,460.00, and then the reactions start:



PEACHES AND HER NEW STALL-MATE PEANUT



A CURIOUS CANINE STOPS TO FIGURE OUT WHO THE "BIG DOG" IS?



PEACHES GETS A MUCH NEEDED HUG FROM A FAN



PEACHES GREETES PEOPLE AND PETS

"She just made my day."
"Can I hug her? I really need a hug."
"I'm so happy now—I pet a horse today!"
"She just made me smile. I needed that."
"I've had a terrible day, it helped to see her!"

Over and over, Peaches lifts people's spirits. It's become her mission.

She's practically a celebrity at the park. When I walk my dog, people will stop me and ask,

"Where's Peaches?" And when we cross the street, people roll down their windows while driving by and yell, "Hi Peaches!" I even had two kids arguing in the parking lot—one insisting her name was "Strawberry," the other passionately defending "Peaches." (For the record, the sister was right.)

And the questions I get over and over:



PEACHES LEANS IN FOR A FRIENDLY PET

"How old is she?", "What does she eat?", "Why is her hair so thick?", "Where does she live?", "Does she like dogs?", "How long do minis live?"

I love answering every single one. It gives me a chance to educate people—kids and adults—about horses, something fewer and fewer Americans grow up around. And honestly... it breaks my heart when someone says they've never pet a horse. Because this summer, the City of Lakewood began a rezoning project—one that would eliminate agricultural and horse properties in favor of denser housing. They say it's about affordability, but let's be real: developers don't voluntarily sell cheap when they can sell high. Meanwhile, the Western way of life—the connection to land, animals, and open space—is slipping away.

So Peaches, along with other neighborhood horses and their owners, has been helping spread the word about petitions to let the voters—not the city—decide whether horse properties disappear. Horses aren't just "pets." They're emotional anchors, therapy partners, teachers, and healers. Peaches proves that every single day.

She calms anxious dogs. She grounds stressed-out adults. She delights kids. She gives people a break from their thoughts. And if everyone understood what a horse can do for their mental health, we'd value them a whole lot more.

So Peaches and I will keep walking and talking. We'll keep showing up for the community. And I'll keep letting people love on Peaches—because she loves them right back.

—Melanie Hood



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

Rescue Means Many Things

Where does the money go? We usually have around 40 horses at a time in the rescue, so quite a bit of the money people donate to us goes directly to the care of them. Feed bills, vet bills, farrier bills. They all add up quite quickly.

However, another way we try to help horses is by supporting other rescues, and sometimes even private owners. Just a few examples of the things we have done this year alone.

- ◆ We gave another rescue money to geld a young horse that they had who was a cryptorchid. (A cryptorchid means the testicles have not descended, making it necessary to do an abdominal surgery, which is more complicated and expensive than a typical gelding procedure.)
- ◆ We provided funds to another rescue to get extensive vet care on a mare who had been bitten in the eye by a rattlesnake. Because of quick Veterinary intervention and multiple procedures, they were able to save her eye.
- ◆ We sent funds to a rescue so that they were able to buy a group of five young, sick ponies

at auction and save their lives.

- ◆ We got a phone call from a woman who did not have the money to have her elderly horse euthanized. We paid the vet and the animal removal service to help her and her old horse. (A sidenote to this story is that euthanizing a horse and having the body removed runs about \$800.00. It's very difficult for some folks to be able to afford to do right by their old horses.)
- ◆ We gave hay, feed, and various other items to multiple people who have been in need of help to get through a difficult financial time, because sometimes "rescue in place" is far more desirable than just taking someone's horse into the rescue. Many people just need some help and would really love to keep their horses and care for them properly, but need a little help to get back on track.

Correct me if I'm wrong but this is a hundred times better than growing up with a cell phone



NEW RESCUED PONIES, STEPH AND ADDY, IN QUARANTINE AT RMHR

THE GREATNESS OF A NATION AND ITS MORAL PROGRESS CAN BE JUDGED BY THE WAY ITS ANIMALS ARE TREATED.

— MAHATMA GHANDI



FIVE RESCUED PONIES, FUNDED BY RMHR

Rescue can and should be about not only personally taking in horses, but also assisting other rescues and private owners. With all of your generosity, we hope to be able to continue this for years to come.

—Kris Nixon





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

Freddy

Shortly after our last newsletter went out, I got a call from a man who had a miniature horse in his backyard. Not a backyard in the country, mind you, but a backyard in a subdivision. Said miniature horse lived in his backyard with his dogs. And had been doing so for several years. In fact, sometimes he would put his horse in the backseat of his car and take him for a spin around the block, much to the neighbor's delight. Unfortunately, Animal Control and the zoning department were somewhat less delighted, particularly when the tiny horse got loose after the yard gate was left open and was captured galloping down the highway. That was the end of having a pet horse in the yard. Anyone who knows me at all knows I love minis, so of course I said we would love to take him. That was when I said, "You keep referring to the horse as him, so I assume it's a gelding?" To which he responded, "Oh, I don't know. How can I tell?" I instructed him to lift up his tail and look between his hind legs, at which point he said, "OH! HE IS A STALLION!" so, we were the soon to be proud owners of a tiny stallion.



VOLUNTEER AND SPONSOR JILL KLUGE HAD THE CLEVER IDEA OF MANAGING FREDDY'S FORELOCK WITH A RUBBERBAND AND TONS OF HAIR GEL. HE IS NOW THE HIT OF THE PARTY!



FREDDY AND HIS BEAUTIFUL HAIR TRYING TO GET HIS NEIGHBOR'S ATTENTION

I don't know what I expected when we went to get him, but it certainly wasn't what I saw. "Pone Pone," as he was called at the time, was merrily capering around in a giant backyard with his dog friends. His owner, who was the most delightful man in the world, explained to us that he had acquired his little buddy when he went to a backyard rodeo with his girlfriend. He saw little Pone Pone there, and started talking to the people who owned him, who explained that he would be used later for

kids to use for roping. This happens quite often with minis. They are used in a pretty unpleasant way, by having their legs roped out from underneath them.

Predictably, this often ends quite poorly. At any rate, our new friend could not bear thinking about that happening to little Pone Pone, so he offered to buy him on the spot, and off he went with his new pet in the back seat of his car! He loved Pone Pone so much that he cut a hole in the wall of his kitchen so his little buddy could stick his head in and eat his breakfast off the kitchen floor while he had his morning coffee.

We get a lot of owner surrenders, but very few are as well loved and well cared for as this little guy.

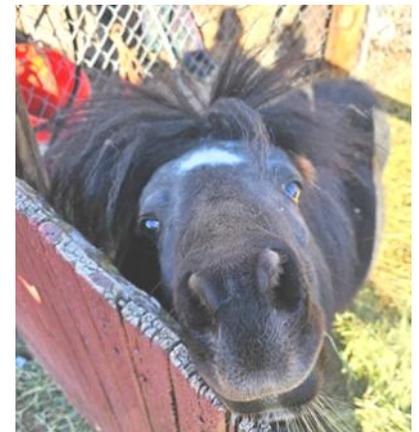
When we got Pone Pone home, we scheduled him for gelding and changed his name to Freddy.

Freddy had been living in the yard with his dog pals for quite some time, so imagine his tiny stallion surprise and delight when he went somewhere with other horses!! The cute little guy we met in the backyard very quickly became the wild herd stallion who tried to climb out of his pen if you led another horse within 15 feet of him.

Fortunately, his "brain surgery" (aka castration) was just a week after he came in and no horses were bred by baby Casanova, much to his disappointment. Freddy is now a farm favorite and spends his days bossing around his two roommates. We are hoping to use him in a therapeutic capacity, because his personality is so special and he/s so cute and tame. Living in the backyard and joyriding in the car made him the great guy he is today.

We are so thankful for people like his former owner, who saved Freddy from being mistreated.

— Kris Nixon



FREDDY IS A RABID COOKIE ADDICT AND ALWAYS BEGGING

**ENTRENCHED
IGNORANCE
MASQUERADES AS
TRADITION
— ANONYMOUS**



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

JoJo's Corner

Currently, I am preparing to be interviewed by People magazine about being named, "Sexiest miniature horse alive" for 2025. I am delighted to speak with them, because obviously my fans are very important to me, and I want them to be able to feel that they are a part of my journey. Of course, they really aren't a part of my journey, as I am clearly a self-made mini.

My looks are certainly a big part of my worldwide fame, but I don't think we should forget my other talents.

Talents such as rearing. I know that some other, lesser horses can also rear, but no one can match my power and incredible posture during my best rears, which I generally like to save for people like the vet and the farrier. I'm nothing if not a giver, and I feel like putting on a show for those people is really brightening their day. I figure they are usually bored with their uneventful horse interactions, so a good tiny hoof to the sternum probably really makes their day worthwhile.

I'm great at rearing, but I think I would be doing a disservice to myself and my fans if I didn't also mention how fantastic I am at biting. Now, any old horse can bite you, but a true professional at the skill, such as myself, will first lull you into a false sense of security by putting their ears up, snuggling up against you and looking lovingly into your eyes. Then BAM!!! Hit them with the teeth. This serves the dual purpose of both physical and emotional pain, which is a talent that must be honed over many years. I'm a master at my craft, as many people can attest.

Something I'm still working on, but have no doubt I will perfect, is escaping out of my gate. Much like David Copperfield, I first divert attention. Then, as my audience is looking elsewhere, I slyly disappear as if by

magic. The part where I get tripped up is when there is food involved. If a snack has been offered to me, I feel it is rude to ignore it. Often, this results in the gate being closed whilst I am otherwise occupied by chewing. It's a work in progress.

Anyway, that is just a sample of my many talents and obviously I don't want to give the whole magazine piece away before publication.

Hang on a second oh. Wait. My butler just told me it may not be People magazine. And there may not be a lengthy interview and photo shoot. Now she's trying to tell me I might not be the sexiest mini alive. So, apparently, she's had some sort of psychotic break and can no longer be trusted to relay accurate information.

Stay tuned, I'm almost positive I'm going to be on the cover of People. Or Minis. Or some international magazine. In the meantime, I'll be signing headshots for a small fee. Send cash and/or horse cookies.



**RMHR IS A
NON-PROFIT
501(C)(3)
ORGANIZATION
YOUR
CONTRIBUTIONS
ARE TAX
DEDUCTIBLE**



BOARD MEMBERS /STAFF		
President	Bini Abbott	(303) 424-0037
Vice President	Kris Nixon	(303) 910-1689
Secretary	Mary Norden	(303) 978-1850
Western Colorado/Fund Raising	Ruth Ann Burnett	(970) 245-7774
Horse Welfare Consultant	Carole Kenney	(303) 910-9410
Special Events/Volunteers	Stefanie Shea	(860) 878-2303
Volunteers/Adoptions	Emily Kil	(860) 885-9559
Northern Colorado	Laura Gill	(970) 371-1446
Best Practices & Veterans	Ranya Kelly	(303) 431-0904
Veterinarian Advice	Lois Toll, DVM	(303) 794-6359
OTHER SUPPORTING STAFF		
Website & Newsletter	Rob Nixon	(303) 204-1898
Facilities & Heavy Equipment	Bill Polzin	(303) 906-8509

Tuesday, December 9th is Colorado Gives Day. Every non-profit receiving a donation on Colorado Gives Day



receives a portion of the Colorado Gives Day Incentive Fund, increasing the impact and the value of every dollar donated. Please remember us on 12/9 or schedule a donation today.



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

This and That



BILL POLZIN APPARENTLY DIDN'T REALIZE THAT OTHER DUTIES AS ASSIGNED INCLUDED BULL SNAKE RANGLING



RMHR EMOTIONAL SUPPORT DOGS PENNY AND DEXTER ENJOY THE SHADE AND BREEZE



"MUST . . . GET . . . DRINK."



MARGARET FLANAGAN ADOPTED LUKE BUT SPICE MADE SURE TO GET A PROPER HUG BEFORE THEY LEFT



CRAIG REYNOLDS POSES WITH BLACK BETTY JUST BEFORE LOADING HER FOR THE TRIP TO HER NEW HOME



TATIANA DOES HER BEST IMPRESSION OF ZORRO DURING THE ENDLESS BLACK FLY SEASON



ETHEL JENKS PREPARES TO LOAD WILLY AFTER ADOPTING HIM TO BE A COMPANION TO HER HORSE



UM . . . THERE IS ONLY SUPPOSED TO BE ONE HORSE EATING OUT OF THE TUB. I THINK MAYBE THE MULE GATE IS OPEN!



KEN THE MULE ENJOYS DINNER AFTER A LUXURIOUS SPA DAY INCLUDING A MUD BATH



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.rockymountainhorsesrescue.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.



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 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.

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.



QUICK CORRAL

Five foot long sections can be quickly assembled to create an emergency enclosure and are in two bags for car or trailer transport.



CONNELL FLEX GUIDE

To draw straps under a cast horse stuck in a mud or trench.

COME VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.ROCKYMOUNTAINHORSESCUE.ORG



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

Up for Adoption

HARRY IS A 10 YEAR OLD THOROUGHBRED CROSS. HE IS 15.2 HH TALL. HE HAS BEEN RIDDEN BOTH ENGLISH AND WESTERN. HE WILL REQUIRE AN EXPERIENCED RIDER.



BARBIE IS A 13 YEAR OLD PONY. SHE WAS RESCUED FROM THE KILL LOT. SHE IS RIDEABLE BUT WILL REQUIRE AN EXPERIENCED CHILD OR SMALL ADULT. SHE HAS GOOD GROUND MANNERS AND GETS ALONG WELL WITH OTHER HORSES.



PHINEAS (LEFT) AND FERB (RIGHT) PHINEAS (5YO) AND FERB (13YO) ARE MINIATURE HORSES. THEY CAME IN TOGETHER AND ARE BOTH FAIRLY SKITTISH BUT ARE LEARNING EVERY DAY.



SPICE IS A 3 1/2 YEAR OLD AMERICAN SHETLAND PONY THAT HAS HAD LIMITED HANDLING BUT IS TAKING WELL TO LEARNING NEW THINGS AND WILL MAKE AN EXCELLENT PROJECT FOR THE RIGHT ADOPTER.

LUCKY IS A 18 YEAR OLD THOROUGHBRED GELDING WHO HAS A BAD BACK AND CAN BE A COMPANION ONLY.



LEXI IS A 21 YEAR OLD THOROUGHBRED MARE THAT STANDS 17HH. SHE IS EXTREMELY HOT TO RIDE AND REQUIRES A FIRM HAND TO PREVENT HER FROM ADOPTING BAD HABITS. SHE IS NOT SUITABLE AS A TRAIL HORSE.



WE ESTIMATE THAT STEPH AND ADDY ARE APPROXIMATELY 25 AND 15 RESPECTIVELY. THEY ARE CURRENTLY UNDER EVALUATION AS THEY ARE BRAND NEW TO RMHR. THEY WILL HAVE TO BE ADOPTED TOGETHER.

Visit our website:
www.rockymountainhorserescue.org
and call (303) 910-1689 for changes in adoptable horses!
Companion and miniature horses (pasture pets) are always available.



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

RMHR Sponsorship/Foster Program

After many years of discussion, RMHR has formalized a horse sponsorship program. We have three levels of sponsorship:

GOLD- pay all costs including board, feed, farrier, and all veterinary (except for major surgery exceeding \$4,000 to save a life)

SILVER - pay \$200 a month to RMHR to help

cover the costs of feed and maintenance

BRONZE - pay \$50 a month to help cover the cost of care

Some of our many friends of RMHR have gone above and beyond their multiple hours volunteering by sponsoring some of their favorite rescue horses.



MELANIE HOOD (GOLD) BESIDES VOLUNTEERING, MELANIE IS TAKING CARE OF OUR MINIATURE PEACHES N' CREAM



RONNI ECKERT (BRONZE) IS SPONSORING BUTCH ALONG WITH MISSOURI FOXTROTTERS RAY AND WAYLON

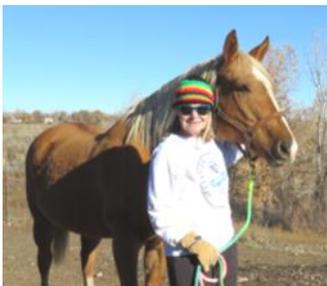


BRITNEY MORGAN (BRONZE) SPONSORS OUR BLIND APPALOOSA COOKIE



RAY & DONNA SALINAS (SILVER) SPONSOR FORMER NEWSLETTER COVER BOY BUCKY

BRENDA BERGSTROM (BRONZE) SPONSORS THOROUGHBRED STOCK TRADE, A.K.A.DUSTY



JILL KLUGE (BRONZE) JILL KLUGE LOVES BUTTERCUP WHOM WE GOT AT AUCTION IN FORT COLLINS. JILL ALSO SPENDS COUNTLESS HOURS VOLUNTEERING AND CLEANING ADDITIONAL PENS.



MICHAEL FISHER (BRONZE) HAILING FROM BOTH ILLINOIS AND COLORADO, MICHAEL SPONSORS THOROUGHBRED JUST IN TIME



LENORE MITCHELL (BRONZE) SPONSORS MINIATURE HORSE BUFFY AND DONKEY PETUNIA



MARK ORMEROD (BRONZE) MARK FELL IN LOVE WITH KEN THE MULE DURING A VISIT FROM NEW MEXICO



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

**2024/2025
RMHR ADVISORS**

Jerry Burk, Attorney and CPA
Lois Toll, DVM
Steve Long, DVM
Debbie Mayo, DVM
Charlie McKay, Rancher
Gary Pallaoro, DVM
Jeff Wells, DVM



**SAVING JUST ONE
HORSE WILL NOT
CHANGE THE WORLD . .**

**.. BUT IT WILL SURELY
CHANGE THE WORLD
FOR THAT ONE HORSE**

Bini's Favorite Stories

The Starfish Story

One day an old man was walking along the beach in the early morning and noticed the tide had washed thousands of starfish up onto the shore. Ahead, he spotted a boy gathering up the starfish, then one by one tossing them back into the ocean. He approached the boy and asked why he spent so much energy doing what seemed to be a waste of time. The boy replied, "The starfish cannot live if they are left out in the sun."



Then the old man gazed out as far as he could see and responded, "But there must be thousands of miles of beaches and countless starfish. You can't possibly rescue all of them. What difference is throwing back a few going to make anyway?" The boy bent down picked up yet another starfish and threw it as far as he could into the ocean. Then he turned, smiled, and said, "It made a difference to that one!"

The old man leaned over, picked up a starfish and joined the boy throwing starfish into the water.

The Rainbow Bridge

Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge.

When an animal dies that has been especially close

to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable.

All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor. Those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing; they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent. His eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross Rainbow Bridge together....

Author unknown...



Moment in History: The Forgotten Pit Ponies

Pit ponies were small horses used in coal mines, primarily in Britain, from the mid-18th century until the mid-20th century. These ponies played a crucial role in the mining industry, hauling coal carts along underground tunnels where human workers couldn't easily go. Pit ponies were usually small and sturdy breeds like Shetlands, Welsh ponies, and sometimes small Clydesdales or Dales. Their compact size made them well-suited for the narrow mine shafts.

Many pit ponies lived and worked underground for most of their lives, often only seeing daylight during holidays or when they were retired. Some mines were so deep that ponies were lowered into them by harness and hoist.

Although conditions varied by mine, many ponies

endured harsh environments with little light and poor ventilation. Over time, legislation like the 1911 Coal Mines Act in the UK improved their treatment by requiring regular inspections and better living conditions.

With the rise of mechanization in the 20th century, the use of pit ponies steadily declined. By the 1980s, they had nearly disappeared from coal mines altogether.

Pit ponies are remembered today as unsung laborers of the industrial age. These animals not only helped power the industrial revolution but also formed bonds with the miners who cared for them, leaving a lasting legacy in mining history.





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

For Real Horse People to Enjoy

YOU KNOW YOU'RE A HORSE PERSON WHEN...

YOU'LL HAPPILY CLEAN 10 STALLS, BUT NOT YOUR OWN HOUSE

I don't have my ducks in a row...
Crazy Horse Ladies
I have horses - everywhere
And hay in my bra,
dirt under my nails and
manure on my boots!



Barrel Horse
\$500 • Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania
Small barrel horse for sale. Having issues with going AROUND the barrels. Will need some training.



IMAGINE A WORLD WHERE HORSES TOOK BAD OWNERS TO THE AUCTION



When a horsewoman reaches a certain age they start collecting miniatures, this is called 'Mini-pause'



YOU CAN'T BUY LOVE BUT YOU CAN RESCUE IT



Today's kids will never know what it's like to back up a trailer with no back up camera while their dad is yelling at them to hurry up

My Relationship Status

- Single
- Dating
- Married
- Horse Owner



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

Thank You Contributors!

Every year we try to make sure that we recognize everyone that supports us: financially, with donated goods, through volunteer labor, transporting and our sponsor/safe homers.

This was a very busy year for the rescue, and us personally, and although we hope we listed all of you, we're sure we missed a few. Our sincere apologies and please realize that we value each and every person that supports our mission. We love you all!

Contributors

Adams 12, Alisha Ward, American Online Giving Foundation, Amy Gorgeous, Amy Kline, Angela Zuccarelli, Angie McCloar, Anita Lavelle, Ann Callahan, Ann Greene, Ann Hanna, Ann Hayes, Ann Johnson, Anna Thomson, Anne Burton, Anne Chamberlain, Anne Chism, Anonymous, Ashley Keeler, Ashley Phillips, Baco Fund, Barb Buerkle, Barbara Kil, Barbara Meachum, Barbara Towber, Becky & Serenity Davis, Becky Osborne, Betty Berry, Betty Heller, Bill & Kelley Schnauper, Birgit Blum, Bobby Griesgraber, Brandy Olson, Brandy Sullivan, Brenda Bergstrom, Brian Mealor, Brian Taylor, Bridget Strang, Brittany Morgan, Britton and Jen Thomas, Brooks & Roxanna Bergner, Candace Cavanaugh, Carol Haertig, Carol Koth, Carol Omeara, Carolann Besch, Catherine Gentz, Cathryn Hupka, Cathy Pober, Celia Thomas, Cheri O'Bannon, Cheryl Rooney, Chloe Tomlinson, Christie Barnett, Christine Twomey,



Christopher Ruggles, Cindy Andrews, Cindy Hodges, Cindy Sullivan, Claudia Hogue, CO Hunter Jumper Foundation, Colleen Quick, Colleen Shalon, Colorado Gives Foundation, Connie Caruso, Cory Hall, Cyn-di Hodges, DAF Giving 360 Trust, Dana Weber, Daphne Byntnar, David Brause, David Russell, Deborah Sutor, Deneb Pologar, Dennis Christie, Denver Foundation, Devan Crean, Diana Baumgarten, Diana Schatz, Diane Lask, Dick Hall, Don Clark,

Donna Wojtowicz, Donnie Davies, Eileen Mooney, Elise Ward, Elizabeth Schnell, Emily Kil, Eric J Frank, Erin Lindstrom, Ethel Jakes, Evelyn John, Fidelity Charitable, Fiona St. Clair, Fran L. Sisler, Frontstream, Gail Saxerud, Gayle Mylander, Gene Filley, Girl Scout Troop 68214, Goldene Lebsock, Gretchen Courtney, Hannah Keyes, Heather Taylor, Heidi Young Schmutz, Helen Davies, Hoffman Family, Irene Borchers, Irene Coleman, James Bush, James Keller, James Smith, Jan Eckhardt, Jan Hill, Jan Peltona, Jan Williams, Jasmine Throckmorton, Jean Gallagher, Jenny Pickett, Jessica Dallow, Jill Carmean, Jill Kluge, Jim Jordan, Joanie Tanous, JoAnne Wortman, Jody Marken, John Baker, John Hornbostel, John Newman, Jordan Koplin, Joy Johnson, Joyce & Doc Baldwin, Joyce Brown, Judy Forman, Julia Somerfeld, Julie Benz, Julie Kuklenski, Karanne Burdick, Karen

RANCH WILDLIFE



THE BARN OWLS RETURNED TO THE RESCUE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS AND RAISED TWO BABIES



A SMALL HERD OF WHITETAILS MAKE THEIR WAY ACROSS A WINTER FIELD



A COOPERS HAWK THAT HAS BEEN HARASSING THE DUCKS SURVEYS THE RESCUE





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

Thank You Contributors! (continued)



Brady, Karen Kah, Karyn Simpson, Kat Demas Mulkey, Kate Burk, Kate Winesott, Kathi Covelli, Kathleen Ambrose, Kathleen Cox, Kath-
leen

Burnett, Patricia Lilliston, Patricia Spetz, Patti Funk, Paula Cook, Paula Ruel, Paypal Online Giving, Peggy S Cruder, Peigi Droysen, Peter Baasch, Peterson Company, Pledgeling Foundation, Priscilla Myers, Ray & Donna Salinas, Reid Lyons, Rena Todd, Richard Billings, Riley Clark, Rita Chacon, Robert Tschiemer, Ron Dietz, Rose Kuenen, Rose Mahoney, Rosemary Sapegin, Roxanne Swoboda, Ruth Schrock, RuthAnn Burnett, Ryan & Taylor McNamara, Sandra Prostrollo, Sandy Newton, Sarah Firouz, Sarah Hostetter, Sarah Schatsiek, Scott Kramer, Shelly Dyer, Shelly Sandoval, Sherrill Hudson, Shirley Thomas, Sondra Weber, Spring House Pilates, St. Vrain Block, Staci



SPECIAL THANKS TO A HOME FOR EVERY HORSE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PURINA WHO DONATED COUPONS FOR BAGS OF PURINA® HORSE

Miller, Stan & Kathy Koniz, Stephanie Rounds, Stephen Olibos, Steve Gardiner, Sue Moore, Susan Brock, Susan Frey, Susan J Toms, Susan McCollough, Susan Sturbaum, Susan Vanderpool, Suzanne Sweitzer, Suzi Conrad, Sydney Ayers, Taylor Morgan, Teresa Schaefer, Terise Harrington Phillips, Teri Schroeder, The Blackbaud Giving Fund, The Full Circle, The Pre-court Foundation, Thomas &



Hasche, Kathryn Hewitt, Kathryn Norris, Katina Hoffman, Kay Erickson, Kelly Frisby, Kerbi Jacobson, Kevin Collins, Kirstine & Todd Valencia, Kristi Wysocki, Kristina McCombie, Kristine & Andrew Hancock, Kristine Valencia, Kroger, Laura Haddad, Laura Kunnenen, Laura Laituri, Laura Thomas, Lauren Fenimore, Lauren Stokes, Laurie Duke, Laurie Merrill, Leah Rohwer, Lee and Donna Blecha, Leigh Kennison, Lenore Mitchell, Lenore Mitchell, Linda Gavit, Linda Hrycaj, Linda Lemmer, Linda Loughrey, Linda Mahoney, Linda Perrel, Linda Pierre, Lisa Lang, Liz Olde, Liz Ryan Sax, Loree Vanderhye, Lou Ann Dixon, Luke & Maryanna Lea, Lynn Wyman, Lynne Cottrell, Margaret Flanagan, Margaret Flannery, Margaret McKay, Margery Kling, Marilyn Golden, Marilyn Todd, Mark Hanne, Mark Springston, Mark Wilkins, Marlene Dehler, Martha Mortell, Mary Alagna, Mary Baker, Mary Dietz/Puetz, Mary Mcneeley, Mary Micklos, Mary Morrow, Mary Norden, Mary Pham, Mary Whitehurst, Melanie Hood, Michael & Carolyn Gahar, Michael Barrett, Michael Carmean, Michael Fisher, Michele R Hoffmann, Michelle Simpson, Mirian Paisner, Molly Nutt, Monica Bauer, Murdochs, Nancy Gooding, Nick & Penny Morris, Niel Wieser, Nigel & Sandra Snell, Nikki Hoskinson, Northglenn, Olof Jacobson,

Kathleen Locke, Toni Rautus, Tracy Manolakis, V Peters, Vasco Kazarov, Veronica Eckert, Virginia Barron, Virginia McCullough, Wendy Goad, Wendy Haas, Wendy Lomeli, Wendy Shatill, Willa Keller, William Towber



NOTE:

Kill buyers buy heavy sound horses as well as thin or lame ones (many draft horses end up in the kill pen). More pounds = more money at slaughter.

Kill buyers make a fortune getting folks to "rescue" these poor souls before slaughter in Mexico or Canada.



A GOOD MAN WILL TAKE CARE OF HIS HORSES AND DOGS NOT ONLY WHILE THEY ARE YOUNG BUT ALSO WHEN THEY ARE OLD AND PAST SERVICE.

— PLUTARCH



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

Gone But Not Forgotten

I think anyone who has ever had a pet of any kind would agree that the worst part of that relationship is saying goodbye. Although we run a rescue, we consider all the horses in our care to be our pets, and losing them is a tough blow every time. This year, we lost some of our longest residents. We have so many older horses, it seems as though it should not be a surprise, but it always is. I feel like we love them so much, they're going to stick around forever.

Duke

Duke came to us as an animal control seizure. He was in such poor condition, he was scheduled to be euthanized. Animal Control agreed to let us take him and try to save him. As a result of his emaciated condition, he had lost the ability to retract his penis into his sheath. Refeeding a starved horse is usually the most difficult part of rehabilitating them, but in Duke's case, trying to get his poor man parts back in was definitely more challenging.

If you've ever had to stuff a horse penis into a diabetic compression sock and then tape it up to his abdomen, you know what I'm talking about. (I sincerely hope you have never had to do any of those things.) About 1000 rolls of elastron and several "pool noodle weiner slings" later, Duke had himself together. That old man was a character. Once he was healthy and fat, he became somewhat of a diva. He (in his opinion) won every over the fence wrestling match he ever had with his neighbors, he demanded back and belly scratches on a regular basis and he had very specific demands during fly season about his apparel (no hind fly boots, if you value your life) and he periodically was uncatchable in his pen, just because he didn't feel like dealing with you that day.

Duke was definitely a staple of the rescue. I had hoped to see his grey old face for years to come. Unfortunately, that was not meant to be. Duke was extremely prone to hoof abscesses. We spent quite a bit of time every winter treating him, radiographing his feet and changing boots on his feet trying to prevent them.

An abscess is what ultimately led to his euthanasia. He had been struggling for a few days with what seemed to be an especially painful abscess. Dr Allison Hartman came out to radiograph him to see if it was in a place where it could be dug out, but the x-ray showed it had become septic pedalostitis and was actually disintegrating his bone. The shocking and sad decision was made to put him down, as this is not a reversible condition. I'm only sharing this sad part of Duke's story because this is not something we have dealt with before, and I hope to never see again, but it is a risk with an abscess, particularly

in an older horse.

Hopefully Duke is across the Rainbow bridge, biting his friends and galloping on his perfect hooves in a place where no fly boots are necessary.

Duke 1992-2025

Little Bit

Little Bit came into the rescue as an owner surrender from a friend of Bini's who was getting older and was worried about her animals in the event of her passing. She came in with her son, Pete.

She was one of the first miniature horses we had at the rescue. She had been used for driving with her original owner, but we found she was a really amazing therapy horse. She was so gentle and calm around wheelchairs or other medical devices.

This was a bit surprising actually, because anyone who had been at the rescue for any amount of time had spent at least part of that time chasing her around the property. She was a major flight risk!! She would either run out the gate when you were coming in the gate, or sh'd push it open while you



DUKE



LITTLE BIT



RUDY



were cleaning her pen, or several times, just break the latch and flee the scene. Then she'd gallop wildly around the property until every other horse was in a complete panic. Only then was she satisfied with her work and would allow herself to be escorted back to her pen. Little Bit was 34 years old this year and was very spry right to her last days, when her digestive system just seemed to shut down. We still don't really know for sure what exactly it was, but she fought the good fight for five days, until we decided she shouldn't have to fight anymore.

She will be missed forever. Little Bit 1991-2025

Amiri

Amiri came to us as an owner surrender. She won me over right away when I went to pick her up and had to park on the side of a mountain, on a blind corner with no shoulder. I opened the trailer door and she pretty much just loaded herself and looked



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

at me like, "Let's go, lady! We're gonna die on this road!"

Amiri came with a notebook detailing what seemed like everything she had ever done in her life, and every hairstyle, hoof trimming, and ride she ever had. It seemed like we were well informed about her, based on her biography. Or so I thought, until the first time I tried to vaccinate her. I have seen a horse belly button or two in my life, but Amiri reared so high when I BARELY touched her with the needle that I think I may have been looking at her udder for a second. THAT wasn't in the book. I called the previous owner to ask about this, and she said, "Oh. No. You can't give her a shot. We never vaccinated her." Challenge accepted. I'm not saying it was the most fun any of us ever had, but suffice to say, Amiri did get vaccinated twice a year for the remainder of her time on earth.

The other exciting tidbit the previous owner "forgot" to put in her book was the fact that Amiri became someone quite unrecognizable when she was in heat. If you are of a certain age, perhaps you remember the cartoon Pepe LePew. He was an extremely amorous little skunk who chased around a cat, trying to kiss, hug and otherwise maul her. Well, when she was in heat, Amiri was Pepe LePew and you were the cat. No interest whatsoever in other horses, just people.... It sounds kind of cute and charming. I assure you it was not. Being chased around and smushed against the fence by an over-sexed horse is not the makings of a Disney movie. We more or less solved the problem by keeping her on Regumate year round.

But besides champion at trailer loading, Amiri actually was a very good little trail horse, loved to go swimming and also even learned how to jump a bit with our friend Emily Kil. She was actually adopted twice, but came back to us. After the second return, she just lived out her days with her pal, Murphy.

Unfortunately, this summer Amiri colicked very badly and had to be put down. While I won't miss vaccinating her, I do miss her cute little face. Amiri 1999-2025

Inky

Just writing about Inky's passing makes me want to cry. Sometimes we have horses that just steal your whole heart. Inky was that horse. He came in with 10 other miniature horses as an owner surrender. He was in need of extra care and extra food, so he lived in a pen with his friend, Sweetie, but we would bring him out of the pen to eat his Senior, because his fat roommate definitely did not need extra feed. For awhile, we'd tie him to the fence while he ate, but it became pretty obvious he wasn't going to run

away, so after awhile we just let him out. He'd scamper over to his feed tub, eat for awhile, then go around investigating. Usually he'd do that a few times. Eat a little, wander around a little.

Eventually, he'd decide it was time to go in. He



would either come find you, or just stand in the middle of the driveway, where he knew you'd have to pass by him. Sometimes, it was time to go back and he would be nowhere to be found, but if you just called him, he'd come trotting up to be put away.

He was the sweetest, cutest mini ever. Every morning, I get out of my car and wait to hear his little good morning whinny, but it doesn't come. I know I should always be ready to say goodbye, of course I do. But I was not ever going to be ready to lose my little heart horse, Inky. Inky 1997-2025

Rudy

We didn't have Rudy long. We knew we wouldn't. He was horribly arthritic and had significant uvetit in both eyes.

We took him in because his owner could not afford to care for him, even in the most basic sense, nevermind get him the vet care he so desperately needed. We brought him in, treated his eyes, got him a very expensive fly mask (which he destroyed rather quickly) and put him on medication for his arthritic knees. He was almost instantly quite a bit better. We hoped to give him some good days, and we did. He became quite a character after he was feeling a little better. He gained some weight, enjoyed all the new attention and just generally came out of his shell.

Unfortunately, as we somewhat expected, his knees just continued to get worse. He was still able to lie down and get up, but it was pretty obvious that was not going to last much longer, so we made the decision to let Rudy go, on a nice, warm day, with his roommate by his side. It felt like we lost, but I think really, Rudy won.

—Kris Nixon



AMIRI



INKY



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

Operation Obstacle Course

Serenity Davis, one of our volunteers, approached us last year asking about the possibility of building an obstacle course for miniature horses as a project for Girl Scouts. Serenity was hoping to achieve her Gold Award. We thought that sounded like a great idea. After months of planning, gathering supplies, pulling weeds, digging holes and moving dirt, it was



SERENITY DAVIS PAINTS A JUMP



SERENITY DAVIS PRESENTS
RMHR WITH A DONATION CHECK
FROM GSCO TROOP 68214



THE TEAM DIGS HOLES FOR THE
POLES IN THE POLE BENDING
OBSTACLE



THE GIRLS START CONSTRUCTION ON THE
LADDER OBSTACLE

time for construction. Serenity got together a group of friends and family members and they spent the day putting in the course. Finishing touches are still being done, but so far, it includes a water obstacle, a mailbox, a gate to open and close, a small jump, a pole bending course, a set of



TEAM DAVIS BEGINS WORK ON RAMP OBSTACLE

ground poles to walk through and a bridge! Most of the obstacles are actually large enough for a full sized horse or a mini. Of course we couldn't resist trying a few things out. Thank you to Serenity, her mom, Becky, all the helpers and Girl Scout troop 68214 for their generous donation. We're looking forward to putting the minis through their paces for years to come!

—Kris Nixon



THE RUBBER IS ATTACHED TO THE RAMP OBSTACLE



BARBIE WARILY EYES THE WATER OBSTACLE



SUCCESS! FREDDY WALKS THROUGH THE WATER



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

Our Wonderful Volunteers

VOLUNTEERS RECEIVE NO PAY, NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE WORTHLESS, BUT BECAUSE THEY ARE PRICELESS!



SHARI MOOSBURGER AND PETER "TAG TEAM" AN ESPECIALLY DIRTY PEN



JULIA SOMMERFIELD IS ASSISTED BY ROSIE (OUR RED ROAN MULE FROM SHERIDAN, WY)



BILL POLZIN REPLACES DOC AND LORDY'S BARN ROOF



JEFF MARSHALL STOPS BY TO WORK ON SOME FAULTY ELECTRICAL OUTLETS



EMILY KIL AND RYAN SHIELDS HELP UNLOAD STELLA AT RMHR



BECKY DAVIS AND DAUGHTER SERENITY DUMP THEIR WHEELBARROWS



KAT FASSIOLI GETS READY TO SHOVEL MORE MANURE FOR THE GIANT PILE



JORDAN KOPLIN GIVES COOKIE A LITTLE GROOMING



CATHI POBER PEEKS AROUND SOME RESCUE HORSES



TINY IRENE COLEMAN PETS GIGANTIC NORMA JEAN



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

Our Wonderful Volunteers



KARYN SIMPSON TAKES A BREAK WHILE 30 YEAR OLD LITTLE BIT SHOWS HER APPROVAL



JEAN CLAYPOOL ALWAYS WILLING TO HELP



LISA ANDERSON WITH SHY "PARKER"



ANGIE MCCLURE FILLS HER WHEELBARROW TO THE BRIM



JOHN NEWMAN JUMPS RIGHT IN AFTER TAKING THE TOUR



AMY GEORGE LAS GROOMS ROSIE THE MULE AS SHE SHEDS OUT HER WINTER COAT



STAN & KATHY KONIZ VOLUNTEER WEEKLY TO SHOVEL AND RAKE WHILE LEXI I CONTEMPLATES PRODUCING ADDITIONAL MANURE

VOLUNTEERS RECEIVE NO PAY, NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE WORTHLESS, BUT BECAUSE THEY ARE PRICELESS!



RAY SALINAS HELPS MAINTAIN OUR FLEET OF WHEELBARROWS AND GETS US GREAT DISCOUNTS ON PAINT



CLAUDIA HOGUE (ABOVE) AND PATRICIA LILLISTON GIVE TREATS TO "BUTCH" AND "MRS. BUTCH"



FARRIER CRAIG REYNOLDS TAKES A BREAK FROM TRIMMING HORSES



JILL KLUGE THROWS HER HANDS UP IN DISMAY AFTER PETE AND TATIANA KNOCK OVER HER WHEELBARROW



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

Our Wonderful Volunteers



MATT LANCTOT CHEERFULLY PICKS THE PEN OF BARBIE AND SPICE



KRISTIN COSADON COMBS OUT MAIZIE'S FORELOCK



BIRGIT BLUM SAYS HELLO TO LORDY BEFORE CLEANING HIS PEN



DONOR AND VOLUNTEER, VASCO KASAROV GIVES TREATS TO "LOOK ALIKES" LEXI AND BUTCH



CHERI O'BANNON AND SHELLI HOFFMAN PLAY THE GAME OF "WHO'S EXERCISING WHO?" WITH COWBOY AND JOJO



ELIZABETH SCHNELL CLEANS DALE AND COOPER'S PEN



KAREN KAH HAS TO BEND DOWN TO CUDDLE WITH EMMY



RANDY KERR, AND ASSISTANT, STOP BY TO CHECK ON A MAL-FUNCTIONING GOLF CART



CHLOE TOMLINSON AND STEPHEN OLIBOS SOCIALIZE PHINEAS AND FERB



TERRI COLLINS IS THANKED BY JELLY BEAN FOR CLEANING HER PEN



KATE BURK DOES LIGHT HOUSEKEEPING FOR BARBIE, KEN AND ROSIE



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

Our Wonderful Volunteers



JANET COOK FILLS A WATER TROUGH



ROSE MAHONEY (OUR WEDNESDAY REGULAR) WITH NORMA JEAN



JANICE HOLLAND WITH HER MIGHTY MANURE FORK



RILEY CLARK TACKS THE "GIANT" MANURE OF LITTLE BUFFY



BETTY BERRY SHOWS "JUSTIN" HOW SKINNY HE WAS ON ARRIVAL



FRANCES KAWANO CLEANS TINY PARKER'S PEN WHILE HUGE NORMA JEAN SUPERVISES



DIANA BAUMGARTEN FEEDS BUTCH AND "MRS. BUTCH" (LEXI) A TREAT



DENNIS CHRISTINE GROOMS STELLA



MARY ALAGNA STEPS BACK FOR HER CLEANING INSPECTION



CHRISTIE BARNETT AND DAUGHTERS, VIOLET RUMLEY AND SEAN MARIE RUMLEY, SOLDIER IT OUT ON A COLD JANUARY DAY



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

Our Wonderful Volunteers



SHANNON BERCOMPAS WITH HER FAVORITE "RAIN"



BOBBY GRIESGRABER AND CHRISTINE TWONMEY HELP CLEAN PENS



NANETTE ERICKSON VOLUNTEERS AND HAS DONATED ITEMS



MELANIE HOOD; ONE OF OUR LONGEST TIME VOLUNTEERS



LEXI CHAMIZO OFFERS A TREAT TO OUR BLIND APPALOOSA MARE—COOKIE



SATURDAY LINDA CORTES AND DIANE LASK DUMP DUAL WHEELBARROWS INTO THE MANURE PILE



DON CLARK PAUSES TO PET "LORDY"



LAUREN JOYCE GETS READY TO RAKE ROSIE'S VOLUMINOUS MANURE PRODUCTION



HARRY STEALS THE MANURE RAKE FROM BRANDI OLSON



TONI RAUTUS AND NORMA JEAN

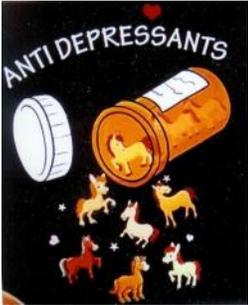


MALLERY MAZZA AND COOKIE



9190 ALKIRE ST.
ARVADA, CO 80005
(303) 424-0037
WWW.ROCKYMOUNTAINHORSERESCUE.ORG

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Chance—Quarterhorse
Stallion



on Arrival



100 Days later



Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Rocky Mountain Horse Rescue is registered with Colorado Gives! This allows us to participate in Colorado Gives Day and provides a platform for all year giving via credit card



Free Use of Rescue Equipment



Our Anderson Sling traveled to Alaska twice and was featured on Nat Geo Wild and Animal Planet TV Shows